

AND

Page 35

Zeta-Jones  
stalker  
Dawnett  
Knight

Page 16

Actress  
Catherine  
Zeta-Jones

**Back page**

© SS 2005

**THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2005**

平成22年4月9日 第三種郵便物認可（日刊朝刊）2010年4月26日（休刊）  
発行所 株式会社朝日新聞 〒106-0032 東京都港区六本木7丁目2番17号

50¢

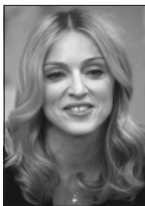
## Page 12

Page 8

**VINCE LITTLE/Stars and Stripes**

STARS & STRIPES  
Your Hometown NewspaperCOMING  
SOON

Scene on Sunday

Japanese inn has  
American spin

Madonna

## Sunday

Celebrity news  
from ParadeDon't miss a  
single issue.

For home delivery, call DSN  
225-4505 (Japan)  
721-7140 (Korea)  
645-2010 (Okinawa)

## TODAY IN STRIPES

Abby, Annie's Mailbox .....	26
American Roundup .....	20-21
Classified .....	28-30
Comics .....	24-26
Crossword .....	25
Faces .....	16
Horoscope .....	24
Letters .....	22
Opinion .....	23
Sports .....	31-40
TV listings .....	19
Weather .....	27
Your Money .....	18

## News Tracker ... What's new with old news

## World

**Iran nuclear program:** Iran on Tuesday said economic incentives may help improve foreign relations but won't permanently stop Tehran from pursuing a nuclear program it says is for generating electricity but Washington believes is for weapons.

The United States agreed last week to drop opposition to Iranian membership in the World Trade Organization and to allow some sales of spare parts for civilian aircraft as part of a European plan that offers economic incentives for Iran to permanently freeze its nuclear activities.

**Chechen rebel reward:** Russia paid \$10 million for information that helped it track down a Chechen rebel leader who was killed last week in a special forces operation, its security service said Tuesday.

The Federal Security Service said it would offer the same reward for Shamil Basayev, the Chechen warlord who claimed responsibility for September's school hostage-taking in Russia that killed 330.

**Bobby Fischer detention:** Chess legend Bobby Fischer shouldn't be exempted from Japan's rule that foreigners who are ordered deported must be sent to their homeland, Japan's top immigration official said Tuesday.

Fischer and his supporters are asking that he be allowed to go to Iceland, where he has been granted a special passport for foreigners, instead of the United States where Japan has ordered him sent.

**Tugboat kidnapping:** Japan has urged Malaysia, Indonesia and Singapore to help rescue three crewmembers of a Japanese-registered tugboat who were kidnapped in a pirate attack off Malaysia, officials said Tuesday.

Japan is asking the three countries to ensure the safety of the victims, share information and cooperate in the investigation, a Foreign Ministry spokeswoman said on condition of anonymity.

Pirates attacked the "Idaten" in the Malacca Strait on Monday night and kidnapped two Japanese — the captain and chief engineer — and a Filipino engineer.

## States

**Big Dig leaks:** The independent engineering specialist who led an investigation into leaks at Boston's \$14.6 billion Big Dig project says he can no longer vouch for the



**Beauty queen on trial:** Sharon Nicole Redmond demonstrates how she held the gun when she shot Kevin Shorter as she backed away in her car. During her testimony Monday in Savannah, Ga. Redmond, 23, is charged with murdering Shorter in a confrontation outside the home of another woman he was dating, four months after she was crowned Miss Savannah 2003. She has admitted firing the gun, but claims it was in self-defense.

safety of its tunnels.

The project buried Interstate 93 underneath downtown Boston and connected the Massachusetts Turnpike to Logan International Airport.

Engineer Jack K. Lemley said new information has surfaced that more than 40 large sections of tunnel wall contain construction defects and that fireproofing material has been damaged by leaks.

**Gary Condit lawsuit:** Former California congressman Gary Condit has won an undisclosed sum of money and an apology from writer Dominick Dunne over his claims about the lawmaker's role in the 2001 disappearance of intern Chandra Levy, according to media reports.

In a statement, Dunne said he did "not say or intend to imply that Mr. Condit was complicit in her disappearance, and to the extent my comments may have been misinterpreted, I apologize for them," The Sacramento Bee reported.

**Suspicious bomb attack:** Prosecutors have decided against a retrial of a former medical examiner accused of staging a bizarre bomb attack against himself.

A mistrial was declared March 1 after three weeks of testimony against former Shelby County Medical Examiner Dr. O.C. Smith in Memphis, Tenn. The jury deadlocked 9-3 for acquittal.

Smith was found in a county morgue stair-

well in June 2002 with his feet, hands and head wrapped in barbed wire and a bomb hung around his neck. Smith said he was attacked by an unknown assailant who threw a caustic chemical in his face. Investigators eventually concluded the attack was staged.

**Prison hostages trial:** An inmate defending himself against charges he raped a guard and held her captive in a prison watchtower in Phoenix for 15 days questioned prospective jurors about whether they had seen the hostage crisis on television.

Ricky Wasenaar, 41, who is serving time for armed robbery and assault, is charged with sexual assault, kidnapping, assault and attempted murder.

**Scott Peterson conviction:** Scott Peterson's lawyers said in court papers that newly discovered evidence could have spared the former fertilizer salesman from a death sentence in the slaying of his pregnant wife.

Defense lawyer Mark Geragos said prosecutors withheld evidence that a state prison inmate claimed he heard that Laci Peterson had interrupted a burglary at a neighbor's home in Modesto on Dec. 24, 2002 — the day she disappeared. Scott Peterson claims he went fishing that day, and Geragos says the tip "points to the conclusion that Laci was alive after Scott left for the day."

Stories and photos from The Associated Press

## Stay in Thailand for FREE!

Sign up for a chance to win a free stay in Thailand from Zama ITT

Includes free hotel, transfer, dinner and sightseeing for 2\*

Fly direct to Phuket on Thai Airways  
Plus receive overnight travel baggage!

Apply at <http://zamaitt.com>

Winner will be announced March 30th in Stars and Stripes

\*Airfare not included. Prize must be used May 1 - July 31, 2005



Serving you with a difference

**Zama ITT**

— Your reliable on-base travel concierge —



Voted Best Travel Agent 2003 & 2004



Proceeds Support Your Local Zama MWR

Phone: 963-4059/5273 Fax: 263-2907

0462-54-8886 0462-55-0356

E-mail: [travel@zamaitt.com](mailto:travel@zamaitt.com)



FRANK WHITMAN/Special to Stars and Stripes

Jorge Cristobal, a Marine veteran from Guam who survived the attack on Pearl Harbor and took part in the retaking of Guam, concludes his speech with a prayer Monday.

## Lawmakers meet vets in Guam

### Field dedicated to baseball-playing WWII Marine

BY FRANK WHITMAN  
Special to Stars and Stripes

GUAM — A congressional delegation stopped in Guam on its way back to Washington from the Iwo Jima ceremonies marking the 60th anniversary of the Battle of Iwo Jima. While in Guam they honored veterans and listened to their concerns.

Rep. Darrell Issa, R-Calif., and Rep. Lane Evans, D-Ill., accompanied Del. Madeleine Bordallo, D-Guam, to her home district Saturday evening and left Monday morning. Evans is the House Committee on Veterans Affairs' senior member.

Before they left Monday, the members of Congress took part in a morning wreath-laying ceremony at the Guam War Memorial. During the ceremony at the Asan Bay Overlook in the War in the Pacific National Historical Park, the delegation presented Gov. Felix Camacho with a House resolution commemorating the 60th anniversary of Guam's liberation, which was celebrated July 21.

Sunday, the legislators toured U.S. Naval Hospital Guam and the Veterans Clinic. They met with the hospital command to discuss recently announced plans for a new hospital, which is to include an expanded section to serve local veterans.

"We're very optimistic that come 2008, when the new facility's finished, it's going to be the best of both worlds," said Issa of the hospital's projected dual role in serving both veterans and active-duty personnel. In addition to expanded veterans facilities, the hospital is to include separate base access for the veterans, particularly welcome in the wake of heightened base-entry security measures during the war on terrorism.

After the hospital tour, Bordallo hosted a forum to

permit representatives of local veterans' groups to voice their concerns. Although complaints have been voiced about the hospital's veterans clinic being perennially short-staffed — it lacks a full-time physician — the discussion focused primarily on health care benefits.

"We're out here mainly for the health care situation," Bordallo said. "Since I've been elected, this has been the main concern of the veterans. They're just not pleased with the services at the Naval Hospital clinic."

Cathy Illarino of the Guam Veterans Center said she hopes to see a staffing increase, particularly the addition of a family therapist, to improve services to children and families. The center, part of the Department of Veterans Affairs, does readjustment counseling for combat veterans. "Right now we are a staff of three," she said. "Myself as the team leader. I'm a clinical social worker doing administrative activities. We have one counselor and one office manager."

The delegation also attended the dedication of a village baseball field named to honor the memory of a Washington, D.C., Marine who served in Guam from August 1944 until February 1945 and was killed during the battle at Iwo Jima. A high school standout, Jimmy Trimble had been invited to play professional baseball and while in Guam pitched for the 3rd Marine Division baseball team.

The ceremony at the Baza Gardens Trimble Baseball Field also was attended by local officials, Guam veterans, members of the armed forces stationed in Guam and about a dozen veterans who were returning from Iwo Jima, including one Marine who had served with Trimble and another who said he built the field in Yona Village on which the Marines played.

## E-2 repair shop opens at Atsugi

BY JULIANA GITTLER  
Stars and Stripes

**NAVAL AIR FACILITY ATSUGI, Japan** — A new repair facility created by Naval Air Pacific Repair Activity and the Japanese firm Nippi Corp. opened last week that allows the Navy to do regular maintenance on E-2C Hawkeye aircraft in Japan, saving valuable time and cost.

In the past, certain scheduled aircraft maintenance — similar to a tune-up — had to be done in the United States. The E-2s based at Atsugi were loaded on a ship and sent to Naval Air Depot North Island in San Diego for the maintenance, called Planned Maintenance Interval 2.

Losing the aircraft diminished the squadron's ability. "There's a shortage of them in the Navy," said Cmdr. Murph Borno, NAPRA commander. "It's very hard to find replacement aircraft."

The aircraft now can receive PMI-2 literally outside the gates at Atsugi, where Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron 115, part of Carrier Air Wing 5, is based.

Nippi's hangar abuts Atsugi's fence, so aircraft can be towed right into the repair hangar.

"It's [a] big time saver and a big cost saver," said Tommy Rogers, NAPRA's E-2C logistics management specialist.

Nippi Corp. already performs another major scheduled maintenance, called PMI-1, which checks the aircraft for corrosion and other physical damage.

PMI-2 tests the delicate electronics and other systems on the E-2C, an airborne early-warning aircraft with sophisticated detection and surveillance equipment.

The new facility means both types of maintenance can be performed in Japan, the only place outside the United States with that capability.

"It's significant that it's here because this is where the customer is," Borno said. "This allows us to keep all the aircraft in the area."

Nippi is suited for the job, Borno said. Nippi's parent compa-

ny, Kawasaki Heavy Industries, performs the same type of maintenance on Japanese military E-2s.

It took more than a year to set up the new facility. The Navy had to purchase an electronics testing system for Nippi, and employees underwent training on the new processes, Borno said. "There was a lot of logistics involved."

E-mail Juliana Gittler at: gittlerj@starsjcsd.mil

### E-2 Hawkeye

■ The Navy's all-weather, carrier-based tactical battle management airborne early warning, command and control aircraft.

■ The E-2 performs surface surveillance coordination, air interdiction, offensive and defensive counter air control, close air support coordination, time-critical strike coordination, search and rescue airborne coordination and communications relay.

■ An integral component of the Carrier Strike Group air wing, the E-2C uses computerized radar, Identification Friend or Foe and electronic surveillance sensors to provide early warning, threat analysis against potentially hostile air and surface targets.

■ Since its launch in 1964, the Hawkeye has been the "eyes of the fleet." The latest version, the E-2C, became operational in 1973.

■ The \$80 million twin-engine aircraft is approximately 57 feet, 6 inches long with an 80-foot, 7-inch wingspan and weighs a minimum of 40,200 pounds.

■ It is most notable for a 24-foot-diameter radar rotodome attached to the upper fuselage.

■ The E-2C squadron in the Western Pacific is Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron 115, the Liberty Bells, part of Carrier Air Wing 5.

Source: Navy Fact File

### Biting into something sweet



Four-year-old Hiromi Dorgan, left, bites into a fresh strawberry during the U.S.-Japan Goodwill Society's trip Friday to a strawberry field near Naval Air Facility Atsugi, Japan. Children from Atsugi's Child Development Center were allowed to pick and eat strawberries from the Otsuka Strawberry Farm. The farms regularly allow visitors to pick their own strawberries.

JOHN E. WOODS  
Courtesy of the U.S. Navy



JIM SCHULZ/Stars and Stripes

A Shinto ceremony was held at the Nippi Corp. on Thursday to launch a new E-2 repair facility at Naval Air Facility Atsugi, the first U.S. naval facility of its kind overseas.

# 7th Fleet: Serving the U.S. for 62 years

Yokosuka-based command took part in nearly every major 20th-century naval operation

By JULIANA GITTLER

Stars and Stripes

Little more than a year after Japan bombed Pearl Harbor and the Axis powers signed a pact in Berlin, a new U.S. naval command was formed to control operations in one of the hottest areas of warfare on the water.

On March 15, 1943, Vice Adm. Arthur S. Carpenter took control of what had been the Southwest Pacific Force, the precursor of the 7th Fleet.

The fleet today is led by Vice Adm. Jonathan Greenert from aboard the USS Blue Ridge, which celebrated the fleet's 62nd anniversary while on a cruise to South Asia.

The command immediately was pivotal in the World War II Pacific Ocean campaigns and later was heavily involved in the wars in Korea and Vietnam.

After Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait, President George H.W. Bush added operational responsibility for the Middle East to the responsibilities of 7th Fleet Commander Vice Adm. Henry H. Mauz Jr. for nearly a year before the 5th Fleet was set up to take control of that region.

"We have an impressive record



Greenert



JIM SCHULZ/Stars and Stripes

USS Blue Ridge returns from a cruise to its home port of Yokosuka Naval Base. The Blue Ridge, part of the 7th Fleet, celebrated the fleet's 62nd anniversary while on a cruise to South Asia.

of being part of nearly every major naval operation of the 20th century," Greenert, on the Blue Ridge, stated in a written news release. "We're not resting on our past accomplishments now, especially not in today's world."

The Seventh Fleet now is the Navy's largest U.S. numbered

fleet, with the largest geographical area of operations.

The command, based at Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan, has more than 40 ships, 120 aircraft and 20,000 sailors and Marines. It includes the USS Kitty Hawk, Kitty Hawk Strike Group, Carrier Air Wing 5 and the Essex Amphibious Ready Group.

The fleet's ships are involved in exercises with forces from a dozen countries in the Pacific and Indian oceans each year, including one with South Korea scheduled for this month.

The fleet is also engaged in humanitarian work. After a deadly earthquake unleashed devastating tsunamis in south Asia on Dec. 26, the 7th Fleet took the first steps in Operation Unified

Assistance, among history's largest humanitarian relief efforts.

Ships supporting that operation included the USS Abraham Lincoln Carrier Strike Group, USS Bonhomme Richard

and Expeditionary Strike Group 5, USS Essex, USS Fort McHenry and the USNS Mercy hospital ship.

E-mail Juliana Gittler at: gittler@stripes.osd.mil

## History of the 7th Fleet

■ March 15, 1943, a new command is created and takes part in the Battle of Leyte Gulf in the Philippines under Gen. Douglas MacArthur, supreme commander, Southwest Pacific Area.

■ After the war, in 1947, the fleet becomes Naval Forces West Pacific.

■ Before the outbreak of hostilities in Korea, the force is designated U.S. 7th Task Fleet.

■ On Feb 11, 1950, the force becomes the U.S. 7th Fleet.

Source: 7th Fleet

On Special Prices... CREDIT CARD AND...  
Best Offers On Line. We Have The Lowest Prices >>> [www.hittravel.co.jp](http://www.hittravel.co.jp)

**March Departure**

	Los Angeles	Washington DC	Seoul	Select City U.S.A.	All U.S.A.	Honolulu	Manila
	\$335	\$365	\$225	\$353	\$419	\$435	\$385

YOKOTA BRANCH TEL: 042-539-7202  
ATSUGI BRANCH TEL: 0467-71-1001  
EBUSU BRANCH TEL: 03-3473-9040  
SHINJUKU BRANCH TEL: 03-3346-4363

NO. 1 TRAVEL'S NATIONAL NETWORK HAS BEEN SERVING THE FOREIGN COMMUNITY FOR OVER 19 YEARS.

**No.1 TRAVEL**  
We go the extra mile for you

## DO YOU HAVE A MILITARY ID? THESE PRICES ARE FOR YOU ONLY!!

### MARCH SPECIALS

SEOUL	\$25,500(\$245)	3/21-3/31	DAILY
MANILA	\$39,800(\$383)	3/21-3/31	SUN-FRI
LOS ANGELES	\$49,000(\$466)	3/21-3/31	DAILY
USA EAST COAST 1 CITY	\$56,800(\$546)	3/21-3/31	MON-FRI
SYDNEY/MELBOURNE	\$60,500(\$582)	3/21-3/31	

### APRIL SPECIALS

BANGKOK	\$39,000(\$375)	4/1-8/15
LOS ANGELES DIRECT	\$39,000(\$371)	4/3-4/14 SUN-FRI
LAS VEGAS	\$50,800(\$488)	4/3-4/21 DAILY
USA EAST COAST 1 CITY	\$61,000(\$587)	4/1-4/8
SYDNEY/BRISBANE	\$54,800(\$527)	4/4-4/21

<http://www.no1-travel.com>

**Shinjuku Head Office**  
03-3200-8871  
Fax 03-3200-8870  
Business: 10:00-18:00  
Saturday: 10:00-18:00  
Sundays & Holidays: Closed

**Ikebukuro Branch**  
03-3986-4291  
Fax 03-3986-9989  
Business: 10:00-18:00  
Saturday: 10:00-18:00  
Sundays & Holidays: Closed

**Shibuya Branch**  
03-3770-1381  
E-mail: no1shb@sales.or.jp  
Business: 10:00-18:00  
Saturday: 10:00-18:00  
Sundays & Holidays: Closed

**Yokohama Branch**  
045-322-1701  
E-mail: no1yok@sales.or.jp  
Business: 10:00-18:00  
Saturday: 10:00-18:00  
Sundays & Holidays: Closed

★ Prices may vary depending on availability and dates.  
★ Reservation charges for 100% of travel services are waived at time of booking.  
★ All rates apply based on A-100 (100% of travel services are waived).  
★ Payment can only be received at specific times and locations.  
★ All prices are only accurate at the time of booking.



# 5 killed in 3 car bombings across Baghdad

## GI among dead; Kurds, Shiites agree to convene new parliament

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Three car bombs exploded in Baghdad, killing at least five people, police said, as Kurdish and Shiite leaders agreed to convene Iraq's new parliament on Wednesday, despite their apparent failure to iron out some wrinkles in their deal to form a coalition government.

A U.S. soldier was killed by a car bomb in Baghdad and another six were wounded, but the military did not say if it was one of the three attacks reported by Iraqi police and eyewitnesses — one of which had targeted an American military convoy.

The car bomb targeting a U.S. military convoy exploded on a road about 500 yards from the main avenue leading to Baghdad's international airport, police Capt. Thahir Talib said.

Four civilians were killed and seven were wounded, including two police officers, he said. The explosion took place in the Amel neighborhood about six miles from the airport.

In a report unconfirmed by U.S. officials, witnesses said some

U.S. troops were also wounded. When U.S. forces arrived on the scene to evacuate them, another car bomb exploded, wounding more troops. One Humvee was destroyed and two civilian cars were in flames, witnesses said.

A U.S. military spokesman said he was checking into the report, but never replied.

A later statement issued by the U.S. military said a soldier was killed and injured at 10 a.m., about the same time of the reported attack. It said that "several local nationals and one Iraqi policeman were also wounded." The soldier's name was withheld pending notification of next of kin, it said.

Another suicide car bomb exploded in northeastern Baghdad, killing one child and wounding at least four people, including a police officer, police Col. Muthan Sadoun said. The bomber was trying to hit a traffic police patrol but crashed into a tree, Sadoun said.

Separately, a U.S. Marine with the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force died Monday in Anbar, a troubled province that has been a hotbed of guerrilla activity and includes the cities of Fallujah, Ramadi and Qaim, officials said



Iraqis look over a burning truck south of Baghdad on Tuesday. Some witnesses reported that the truck was struck by a rocket-propelled grenade while traveling with a U.S. military convoy.

Tuesday.

Also on Tuesday, Shiite officials said they failed to reach final agreement in talks with both the Kurds and the country's Sunni Arab community. But those failures were not enough to prevent the 275-member National Assembly from convening.

Talks with Sunni Arabs focused on naming a government speaker for the 275-member National Assembly that is to convene for the

first time since Jan. 30 elections. It remained unclear if they would present a candidate Wednesday.

"The Kurds want to make some amendments on the deal and we are going to finish soon, Thursday to be exact. We do not want to impose any name from our side regarding the post of the parliament speaker. We want the Sunnis to nominate some persons for this post, but till now they have not done this," alliance member Ali

al-Dabagh told The Associated Press after talks with Sunni leaders.

Sunni Arabs, who make up only about 20 percent of the population but were the dominant group under Saddam's regime, largely stayed away from the elections — either to honor a boycott call or because they feared being attacked at the polls by insurgents.

They are thought to make up the core of the insurgency and including Sunni Arabs in a future government or in the political process is seen as a way to isolate the militants.

In northern Iraq, insurgents blew up an oil pipeline that connects the Kirkuk oil fields with a refinery in Beji, according to an official in the northern Oil Company. The pipeline is used only to pipe oil domestically, said the official, who asked not to be named. He did not have details on the extent of the damage.

On Monday, the government said security forces in Saddam Hussein's hometown captured two of the ousted dictator's relatives, who allegedly were helping insurgents launch attacks in Iraq.

The two were identified as one-time Saddam bodyguard Marwan Taher Abdul Rashid and his cousin, Abdullah Maher Abdul Rashid — who also was the brother-in-law of Saddam's son, Qusai, state-run Iraqiya television reported.



日本ホテル協会

奥志賀高原ホテル

Japan's Largest Resort • Shiga Kogen Long-established with history and tradition

Japan Hotel Association Member

Okushiga Kogen Hotel

At 1600m elevation. The ultimate in relaxation as you become one with nature. Featuring the Forest Music Hall Produced by world renown composer Seiji Ozawa, the hotel is full of history and tradition.

Surrounded by the pristine Joshinetsu Kogen National Park forest, the Okushiga Kogen Hotel provides the best care to its many customers throughout the seasons. Without relying on unnecessary or extravagant extras, we believe our mission is to provide our customers with a simple, stress-free vacation during their time spent with us. Spending quality time in our relaxing surroundings will make you forget the stress of day to day life and will make a significant difference when you get back home.

### Okushiga Kogen Ski Area

From the lounge looking outward, you will view Okushiga Kogen Ski Area, considered to be one of Japan's best powder snow ski areas. Recently the Japanese Royal Family has enjoyed skiing there and the footage of them on television has warmed the public's heart.

Our superb snow conditions are well known as we have numerous visitors from abroad, including Americans and other nationalities.

Since the slopes are exclusive to skiers only, it serves as a quiet setting for those who seek comfort. In addition, families can feel safe and not only enjoy one area but also direct access to the connecting Yakkai area and other areas using chair lifts and cable cars. Conquering the entire Shiga Kogen Resort has become a recent fad and we hope you can enjoy it too.

We also have many ski instructors within our group facilities and we can easily arrange for instruction. Along with our ski program we also offer guides for snowshoeing and hiking to track animal footprints.

### Government & Military SPECIAL

#### 1) Special Price

(example) with breakfast 11,000yen / person -----> 8,000yen (twin room)  
with breakfast+ski ticket 15,000yen / person ----> 13,000yen (twin room)  
\*In addition Extended nights are discounted by 1000yen per night

#### 2) Promotional Giveaway

We will give away a free night's stay to 2 pairs 4 persons, and a meal voucher to anyone who participates in our promotional contest. Please send necessary info to Stars and Stripes department via email: [info@okushiga-kougen.com](mailto:info@okushiga-kougen.com)

#### 3) We also offer group discounts and corporate discounts!

Please feel free to ask our point of contact (Itoh)

Email: [info@okushiga-kougen.com](mailto:info@okushiga-kougen.com)

Phone: 0269-34-2034 (Itoh)

<http://www.okushiga-kougen.com>

<http://www.snowjapan.com>

# Commander vows progress in Afghanistan

BY STEPHEN GRAHAM  
The Associated Press

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — The new operational commander of U.S. forces in Afghanistan promised Tuesday to protect the country's parliamentary elections in the fall and played down the unsuccessful hunt for Osama bin Laden and other top al-Qaida and Taliban leaders.

Maj. Gen. Jason Kamiya took command of the 18,000-strong U.S.-led coalition in Afghanistan as American troops based in Europe rotate into the country ahead of parliamentary elections expected in September.

"We will continue to focus our energy, No. 1, on supporting the government of Afghanistan's vision," Kamiya told reporters

## Kamiya, new leader of U.S.-led coalition, puts emphasis on elections, not bin Laden

at Bagram Air Base, north of Kabul. "We have the election coming up ... and that will be one of our major focuses."

Afghanistan last year passed a new constitution and held a landmark presidential election won in a landslide by Hamid Karzai despite threats from Taliban militants to disrupt the ballot. U.S. commanders say their operations helped prevent attacks on the vote. Since then, troops increasingly have focused on supporting local officials and encouraging reconstruction.

However, fugitives such as bin Laden and Taliban chief Mullah Omar remain at large, as hundreds of militants still mount ambushes and bombings.

"The success of this mission should not be predicated upon the amount of fugitives or threat groups we remove," Kamiya said.

"Instead, it should be focused on increasing the capacity, increasing the reach of the Afghan central government."

Kamiya, the commander of the Vicenza, Italy-based Southern European Task Force (Airborne), took over from Maj.

Gen. Eric Olson of the Hawaii-based 25th Infantry Division at a ceremony in an aircraft hangar that also was attended by the overall U.S. commander in Afghanistan, Lt. Gen. David Barno.

Barno suggested that the insurgency maintained by Taliban-led militants was losing steam. The Afghan and American governments would decide whether U.S. military bases such as Bagram, which is being equipped with a new runway, would become permanent, Barno said, but he added that it was too early to say when U.S. troop levels might fall.

"We'll be assessing that as the security situation changes, as it gets better potentially, as the Afghan national army and police continue to grow and be more effective," he said.



## A'cross Travellers Bureau

License No. 835

Best Deals Online

www.across-travel.com

### This Week's SPECIALS

<b>HONOLULU</b> 14 Days Fixed <b>¥45,800</b> \$416 4/1-20 Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri, Sat	<b>DIRECT LOS ANGELES</b> 14 Days Fixed <b>¥38,800</b> \$353 4/4-17	<b>DIRECT NEW YORK</b> 9 Days Fixed <b>¥47,500</b> \$432 4/1-9 Mon-Fri	<b>USA East Coast</b> 9 Days Fixed <b>¥51,000</b> \$444 3/18-31 Mon-Fri	<b>DIRECT LONDON</b> 14 Days Fixed <b>¥68,000</b> \$618 4/1-14 Mon-Fri	<b>DIRECT SYDNEY</b> 28 Days Fixed <b>¥61,000</b> \$555 4/1-21 Sat, Tue, Thu, Sat
<b>BANGKOK</b> 14 Days Fixed <b>¥38,000</b> \$346 4/1-15	<b>DIRECT SINGAPORE</b> 14 Days Fixed <b>¥36,000</b> \$327 3/24-31	<b>DIRECT HONG KONG</b> 14 Days Fixed <b>¥29,800</b> \$271 3/24-31	<b>SHANGHAI</b> 14 Days Fixed <b>¥41,000</b> \$373 3/23-31	<b>DIRECT PARIS</b> 14 Days Fixed <b>¥75,500</b> \$686 4/1-14 Mon-Fri	<b>SEOUL</b> 14 Days Fixed <b>¥24,500</b> \$223 3/27-30

### INTERNATIONAL PACKAGES

(INCLUDES AIR & HOTEL (BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY)  
TRANSPORTATION (CARPET AND HOTEL)  
TAXES (NOT INCLUDED)

**GUAM 4days ¥32,800~ (\$298)**  
4/8-23, 5/6-31 Mon

**SHANGHAI 4days ¥47,800~ (\$435)**  
4/3, 10, 17

**SINGAPORE 4days ¥32,800~ (\$298)**  
4/5, 12

### BUSINESS CLASS

**LOS ANGELES ¥154,000 (\$1,400)**  
3/28-3/31

**SINGAPORE ¥218,000 (\$1,982)**  
3/22-3/25 Tue-Fri  
\*All Nippon Airways

**LONDON, PARIS ¥238,000 (\$2,164)**  
3/22-3/25 Tue-Fri

**HONG KONG ¥113,000 (\$1,027)**  
3/22-3/25 Tue-Fri

**BANGKOK ¥148,000 (\$1,345)**  
4/1-4/22  
\*The Airways

**SEOUL ¥79,000 (\$718)**  
3/22-3/23

### ENJOY!! JAPAN HOTEL+AIR-TICKETS

(1 NIGHT STAY / ROUND TRIP)

**SAPPORO**  
¥21,500-  
\$195  
4/14  
4 persons per room

**OKINAWA**  
¥28,000-  
\$255  
4/14  
3 persons per room

**OSAKA**  
¥20,500-  
\$186  
4/14  
3 persons per room

**HIROSHIMA**  
¥21,500-  
\$195  
4/14  
3 persons per room

Prices may vary according to departure dates. SEMI-DOUBLE ROOM CHARGE: 2 PERSONS PER ROOM.

The Credit Card For TRAVELLERS!

**MAPWORLD CARD**

NICOS VISA / NICOS MASTER

**APPLY TODAY!**

**ONE YEAR MEMBERSHIP FOR FREE!**

### IMPORTANT

(Other restrictions may apply)

Payment Japanese yen only.  
Cancellation prices are for cash payment.  
Credit cards accepted (Visa/Master) at office.  
Prices may vary depending on departure date.  
Subject to availability.  
Tax not included in these prices.  
Please inform us if you read about these prices in Stars & Stripes.  
\*... means starting from those prices.  
Japan Domestic Package includes 10 days in advance.  
Last minute booking C/O.

### HIROO



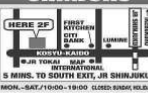
☎ 03-5795-4711

### SHIBUYA



☎ 03-5467-0077

### SHINJUKU



☎ 03-3340-6745

### IKEBUKURO



☎ 03-5391-3227

### YOKOHAMA



☎ 045-322-7525

# GAO: Iraq has fewer trained troops

## Audit agency says U.S. has been overstating figures and progress

By MARK MAZZETTI

Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — U.S. commanders and Bush administration officials are overstating the number of Iraqi security forces on duty, providing an inaccurate picture of the training mission that is the U.S. military's "exit strategy" in Iraq, a government audit agency reported Monday.

The Pentagon in its latest figures said 142,000 Iraqis had been trained as police and soldiers. But the Government Accountability Office said that figure included tens of thousands of Iraqi policemen who left their jobs with no explanation.

The GAO also said the State Department six months ago ceased providing government auditors with information about the number of Iraqi troops issued flak vests, weapons and communications equipment.

The unreliability of the data coming from Baghdad makes it difficult to provide an accurate accounting of the billions of dollars the U.S. government is spending to train and equip Iraq's army and police force, a GAO official told a congressional committee Monday.

"Without reliable information, Congress may find it difficult to judge how federal funds are achieving the goal of transferring security responsibilities to the Iraqis," Joseph A. Christoff, the GAO's director of international affairs and trade, told the House Government Reform subcommittee on international relations.

Although the Defense Department has conducted several internal evaluations of the U.S. training mission in Iraq, the GAO is the first government agency to challenge as inflated the figures the Pentagon uses to chart the progress of Iraqi troops.

Specifically, the GAO criticized the Pentagon's decision to include in its totals of trained and equipped Iraqi troops "tens of thousands" of police officers absent without leave. The most recent Pentagon figures show nearly 82,000 Iraqis have gone through U.S. police training.

"If you are reporting AWOLs in your numbers, I think there's some inaccuracy in your reporting," Christoff said after the hearing.

The progress of the training mission has become a politically charged issue, with Democrats in Congress charging that the Bush administration is misrepresenting the number of trained Iraqis at work.

During confirmation hearings for Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, senators challenged her assertion that the Pentagon had trained more than 120,000 Iraqi policemen and soldiers. That number, they said, included more than 50,000 police officers who were given as little as three weeks of basic training.

"Time and again this administration has tried to leave the American people with the impression that Iraq has well over 100,000 fully trained, fully committed military police and personnel. And that is simply not true," Sen. Joseph R. Biden Jr. of Delaware said.

ware, the ranking Democrat on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, told Rice.

"We're months, probably years away from reaching our target goal."

At Monday's hearing, Defense Department officials defended the practice of including in the official totals policemen who are paid AWOL. Unlike Iraqi soldiers, they said, police officers do not sleep in barracks and are not closely tracked by the Interior Ministry.

However, officials said, policemen

often must leave their units and return to their hometowns when they are paid, in order to ensure that the money gets to their families.

For these reasons, officials said, the total figures for Iraqi policemen are less accurate than the numbers for Iraqi soldiers.

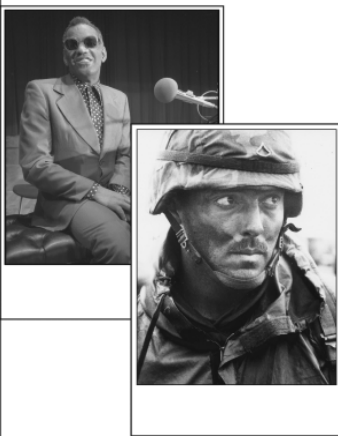
"It's a less precise accounting, and that's the nature of the business we're in," said Rear Adm. William D. Sullivan of the Pentagon's Joint Staff. The total number of trained and equipped policemen "doesn't represent the numbers that are actually in the field."

According to Pentagon figures, more than 142,000 soldiers and policemen have been trained and equipped, with the goal being 271,000 trained by July 2006.

**"If you are reporting AWOLs in your numbers, I think there's some inaccuracy in your reporting."**

**Joseph A. Christoff**  
GAO director of international affairs and trade

## Love Stars and Stripes' Photo of the Day feature?



## Army secretary: No plans to alter number of troops

KENT HARRIS  
Stars and Stripes

BAGRAM AIR BASE, Afghanistan — The Army's civilian leader made his first visit Tuesday to a country where thousands of soldiers have fought the war on terror the last four years.

Secretary of the Army Francis Harvey, who took office on Nov. 19, said he was visiting to see the troops in theater and talk with local commanders to make sure they had what they needed.

Asked about troop levels in Afghanistan and Iraq, he seemed to indicate that no immediate changes were planned.

"There's not a timetable on troops in either theater," he said. "It depends on conditions."

Harvey spoke to a small group of reporters just after Lt. Gen. David Barno, the top U.S. commander in Afghanistan, had answered a few questions.

Barno, expected to give up his command early next month, said coalition forces had achieved "many successes across the board" in the last year.

He said there were fewer attacks on coalition forces in February than in any other month in the last two years. He said he expects that to change somewhat in April and May as the weather improves, allowing anti-coalition forces more mobility.

Asked about the possibility of permanent American bases in the country, Barno pointed to remarks that Afghan President Hamid Karzai made during his election campaign about wanting a long-term relationship with the United States.

He said such issues would not be decided by the U.S. military in any case, but by the respective governments of both countries.

## 45-day jail term for GI whose acts hurt Iraqis

By ANGELA K. BROWN  
The Associated Press

PORT HOOD, Texas — An Army platoon leader was sentenced Tuesday to 45 days in jail for his role in the forcing of three Iraqi civilians into the Tigris River at gunpoint for violating curfew. Investigators say one of the Iraqis drowned.

Army 1st Lt. Jack Saville also must forfeit \$2,000 of his military salary per month for six months, military judge Col. Theodore Dixon ruled.

The 25-year-old West Point graduate could have gotten 9½ years in prison. He pleaded guilty Monday to assault and other crimes in one incident, and was convicted Tuesday of an assault charge in a second case.

Reading from a statement during the sentencing phase of his trial, Saville apologized and said: "I desperately wish to remain in the Army. It has given me more than I could ever imagine."

He will be allowed to remain in the Army.

Saville laughed when soldiers under his command threw one of the Iraqis into the Tigris, saying they had a bet with another platoon over who would do that first, a former soldier testified Tuesday.

Saville did not give the order to throw the civilian into the river that day in December 2003 near Balad, but he knew his platoon sergeant had ordered the soldiers to detain a random Iraqi, former servicemember Terry Bowman testified. The Iraqi survived.

Defense attorney Frank Spinner said the government's two witnesses did not provide evidence to convict Saville on a charge of aggravated assault, saying that knowing about an incident does not constitute aiding and abetting.

Saville had been charged with manslaughter in the reported death of one of the Iraqis but that charge — along with counts of conspiracy and lying to investigators — was dropped in a plea deal. Defense lawyers maintained the Iraqi survived.

Monday's deal included an agreement by Saville to testify against a higher-ranking officer accused of ordering him and other soldiers to execute certain Iraqi suspects if they caught them.

Saville said Capt. Matthew Cunningham, his company commander, gave him the names of five Iraqis who "were not to come back alive" if they were caught during raids in Samarra on Jan. 3, 2004. Cunningham, stationed at Fort Carson, Colo., is under investigation for allegedly giving illegal orders to kill Iraqi detainees, said Lt. Col. Jonathan Whittington, a Fort Hood spokesman. Saville's co-defendant, Staff Sgt. Tracy Perkins, was convicted of assault and obstruction of justice. He was sentenced to six months.

You can now own prints of the memorable images of service members, statesmen, celebrities and civilians taken by Stars and Stripes photographers, as shown in the Photo of the Day Feature in Stars and Stripes website.

Please visit [www.strips.com](http://www.strips.com) and click on the Photo of the Day button, to access our online photo store.

**STARS AND STRIPES**  
Your Hometown Newspaper

## PREGNANT?

Working, you've helped hundreds of military and civilian birthparents & families with ADOPTION.

We listen and help.

NO OBSESSION

1-800-943-0400

1-717-373-3960

[mail@adoption-services.org](mailto:mail@adoption-services.org)

[www.adoption-services.org](http://www.adoption-services.org)



# Debate aside, women know combat roles

## Like male GIs, females thrive amid war stresses

BY VINCE LITTLE  
Stars and Stripes

**FORWARD OPERATING BASE FALCON, Iraq** — Army Capt. Tristan Vasquez of the 127th Military Police Company isn't too fazed by the debate over what roles women should play in combat.

The 25-year-old officer from Cody, Wyo., already has a Bronze Star Medal on her resumé for valor under fire during an ambush in northwest Baghdad in August. Just days later, she helped repel an insurgent attack on the Al-Shoula Iraqi Police Station, which brought an additional commendation.

"We joke around all the time and say there are no women in combat," she said. "That's all right, though. We know what we do."

Vasquez, a platoon leader for the unit that functions in Iraq under the 2nd Brigade Combat Team of the 10th Mountain Division, is among several women who fill vital roles within the company at the Al-Shoula Iraqi Police Station. They ultimately freed him, but for the last 11 months, women certainly worked on the front lines.

"They say it's an asymmetrical battlefield," said Capt. Kevin Hanrahan, of Whitman, Mass., the 127th Military Police Company commander. "Women are not supposed to be in combat. The fact of the matter is they are in combat."

Sitting in the rear Humvee of a three-vehicle

convoy that day in August, Vasquez said they were headed to the Al-Gazzila Iraqi Police Station — one of 19 the company monitors — when her driver noticed something odd.

"My driver, she goes, 'There's no cars on the road,'" Vasquez said. "That's when we had [a rocket-propelled grenade] land in the lead vehicle and another go underneath the middle vehicle. One struck my window right where my head is. Another went over the back hatch."

"I'm very thankful for our armored vehicle. It saved my life, saved my driver's life and probably saved my gunner from either death or dismemberment."

Under constant gunfire in the 140-degree heat, Vasquez and others fought for nearly 90 minutes.



PHOTOS BY VINCE LITTLE/Stars and Stripes

**Army Capt. Tristan Vasquez, 25, of Cody, Wyo., a platoon leader for the 127th Military Police Company at Forward Operating Base Falcon, earned a Bronze Star for her actions during an ambush in Baghdad.**

They treated wounded soldiers and worked to save a gunner trapped under a flipped Humvee. They ultimately freed him, but for the last 11 months, women certainly worked on the front lines.

Six members of Vasquez's platoon earned commendations with valor.

"It's amazing what soldiers can do," she said. "They're incredible individuals. We put them under so many different kinds of stresses. They do an amazing job."

First Lt. Sara Skinner, 27, of Vassar, Mich., another platoon leader, who's on her second tour of Iraq, received the Purple Heart after sustaining shrapnel wounds to her neck and right arm from a mortar attack in early November.

"It went right through my combat patch," Skinner said. "It was not really anything serious. I've seen so many people seriously injured that I feel a little weird about getting the Purple Heart."

First Lt. Amy Clements, 24, of Littleton, Colo., the company's executive officer, faced similar perils as a platoon leader during the first stage of the unit's deploy-

ment. Each time they ventured outside the wire, threats loomed from possible sniper attacks, roadside bombs, ambushes, vehicle bombs and suicide bombers.

"I faced the same thing they [male soldiers] did for five to six days a week," she said. "You witness a lot of scary stuff you never want to see again. You hope nobody else has to face it, either."

E-mail Vince Little at: [little@stripes.com](mailto:little@stripes.com)

## Age-old military woe gets twist when couples serve

**FORWARD OPERATING BASE FALCON, Iraq** — Three female Army officers in the 127th Military Police Company symbolize the struggles and sacrifices of dual-military couples around the globe in the U.S.-led war on terrorism.

Except for a few weeks here and there, Capt. Tristan Vasquez, 1st Lt. Amy Clements and 1st Lt. Sara Skinner have essentially been separated from their husbands — all infantrymen assigned to the 1st Armored Division at Friedberg, Germany — for roughly two years.

"People are making sacrifices that no one ever sees," said Capt. Kevin Hanrahan, the 127th Military Police Company commander. "Not only are they taking part in combat, they're altering their lives by being separated from their husbands. These are true American patriots."

Skinner and her husband, 1st Lt. Bruce Skinner, both graduates of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 2002, were in Iraq at the same time from June 2003 to March 2004 and found ways to visit each other.

"We had about two months together in Germany before I came back here in September," she said. "That's the only two months we've lived together in our marriage."

"But that's pretty normal right now. Lots of military couples are going through the same thing. A lot of people think it's impossible."

Skinner points to soldiers during World War II, who often endured years of separation from spouses.

"We have it a lot better than them. We've got e-mail, phones, regular mail," she added. "Our living conditions are a lot better. Generations before us had it a

lot worse and they made it through."

Married in March 2003 around the start of the Iraq war, Vasquez and her husband, Jose, a first lieutenant, spent about two weeks together before he was sent to Camp Casey, South Korea. After military police training, she went to Hanau, Germany.

Their paths crossed briefly last year during the 1st Armored Division's three-month extension in Iraq.

"It's coming up on our two-year anniversary, and we've lived together for about two months and three weeks total," Tristan Vasquez said. "The rest we've given to the Army."

Both are slated for a return to Iraq within the next year, and they've opted to stick with the military for the long haul.

"There's a better chance I'll see my husband here in Iraq than if I stay in Germany," she added. "I'll take the chance."

Clements and her husband, Adam, also a first lieutenant, both graduated from West Point in 2002. Assigned to different bases in Germany, they lived together for about four months before he deployed to Iraq.

"Every time we see each other, it's like a honeymoon. I think we're on our eighth," she said.

But given the U.S. military's current climate, the three women certainly don't consider themselves unique.

"The three of us are not the only ones in dual-military marriages," Clements said. "There are a lot of them out there, and they all face these same struggles and hardships."

"You just have to keep working for the times you do get to spend together."

— Vince Little

### This is your ticket to financial freedom...

- Consolidate all bills into one payment
- Lower your interest rates and payments
- Get out of debt quicker

Call today to take the first step out of debt.

**1-800-942-9027**

[www.creditadvisors.org](http://www.creditadvisors.org)

Helping people worldwide since 1958.

**Credit  
Advisors**  
800 942 9027



## IN THE WORLD

## Musharraf: Bin Laden was nearly caught

BY MUNIR AHMAD  
The Associated Press

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — Pakistani security forces came close to capturing Osama bin Laden in an operation about eight to 10 months ago, but the terror master-

mind eluded arrest and his trail has since gone cold, Pakistan's president said Tuesday.

Though President Gen. Pervez Musharraf did not say where the operation took place, the comment was the first official indication that bin Laden has recently

been in Pakistan. Intelligence officials have said they believe he is hiding in the rugged mountains that straddle the border with Afghanistan.

"There was a time when the dragnet had closed and we thought we knew roughly the

area where he possibly could be," Musharraf said.

"That was, I think, some time back — maybe about eight to 10 months back," he said, adding: "But after that, this is such a game, this intelligence, that they escape. They can move and then you lose contact."

The comments confirmed Pakistani intelligence officials' claims

that the trail of the world's most wanted man has gone cold. Senior officials close to the hunt have told The Associated Press they have received no information on his whereabouts for months and have no indication of any specific attack he is planning.

Musharraf and other Pakistani leaders say the silence is a sign they have destroyed al-Qaida's network here.

## The New Sanno UPCOMING EVENTS

### EASTER Sunday Brunch



Featuring  
the Easter Bunny  
for the kids to meet.

**Sunday 27, March**

Serving from 10:00 - 15:00

Adults: \$22.95

Children(4-12): \$10.95

Embarcadero Lounge Present

### Comedy Night

Saturday, March 26

Admission Free

Show start at 8:00 p.m.

Janet Williams and Lahna Turner



### Escoffier Dinner

An eight course dinner accompanied with a selection of fine premium wines and fabulous live entertainment to enhance the evening.

**Saturday 2, April**

\$65.00 per person / Seating at 18:30 / Dinner at 19:00

#### RESERVATIONS SUGGESTED

Call the Food and Beverage Reservations Hotline at 229-7151 or 03-3440-7871 EXT.7151 or events@thenewsanno.com

Tickets are Non-Refundable



**THE NEW SANN0**

www.thenewsanno.com

## At least 28 die in prison uprising in Philippines

BY OLIVER TEVES  
The Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines — The Philippines braced for retaliatory attacks after some of the country's most hardened terror suspects were killed in a failed prison uprising that left 28 people dead, most of them inmates killed in a barrage of bullets as hundreds of police stormed the maximum security facility.

The dead included three leaders and a fourth member of the al-Qaida-linked Abu Sayyaf, a group notorious for deadly attacks and ransom kidnappings in which hostages have been beheaded.

The crisis began with an Abu Sayyaf suspect snatching a guard's weapon and quickly turned into a prolonged standoff with at least 10 of the group's top suspects leading the rebellious inmates.

Three guards and 24 inmates died — 22 in Tuesday's assault to take back the prison. A police officer also was killed, his body discovered under debris hours after the operation ended.

Sweat-soaked police marksmen filed out of the building after the assault to the applause of bystanders, escorting prisoners stripped to their underwear and with hands clasped behind their heads.

"The terrorists got what was coming to them," Ignacio Bunyue,

press secretary for President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, said in a statement. "The crisis team gave them all the chances to peacefully surrender."

The raid began after authorities gave the inmates a 15-minute deadline to surrender — an ultimatum that came after hours of fruitless negotiations. Six officers were wounded in the assault, which saw some detainees scale down walls inside the compound as thick smoke billowed out.

The inmates had agreed to surrender after their failed jailbreak Monday, but the deal broke down when they demanded food first, prompting civilian negotiators to leave in frustration.

The bloody assault raised fears of retaliatory attacks. Even as Arroyo congratulated police, an Abu Sayyaf leader warned of repercussions. "To you people, you don't have to bring the war to Mindanao," Abu Sulaiman told DZBB radio, referring to the Muslim homeland in the south where the military has launched offensives against militants. "We will bring it right into your doorstep."

State prosecutor Peter Medalla, who handles Abu Sayyaf cases, said guards at Camp Bagong Diwa were tipped off about a possible prison break three weeks ago. "Apparently, our warnings were ignored," he said.

## Yokota Baptist Church

Pastor Warren Webster

日本語訳もあります YBC services are interpreted in Japanese

REACHING THE MILITARY AND JAPAN, ONE PERSON AT A TIME

Yokota Christian Academy M-F

**Sunday**

Early Service 0830

Sunday School 1000

Morning Service 1100

Evening Service 1800

**Monday**

Faith Bible Institute 1830

**Tuesday**

Soul Winning & Visitation 1830

**Wednesday**

Evening Service & Prayer Mtg 1900

Patch & Pee Wee Clubs 1900

**Friday**

Awana Club 1900

**Monthly**

Mens Prayer Breakfast 1st Sat

Ladies Meeting 1st Sat

**Saturday, March 19, 2005**

Revival Cottage Prayer Meeting

6-7 p.m.

Revival 3-10 April

0425-52-7254

www.yokotabaptistchurch.org

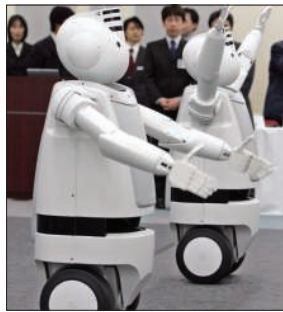


Fussa Gate

16

Term Gate

At Fussa Gate: Left on 16 to light. Turn right. Take next left. Church on left.



AP photos

EMIEW, a child-size robot-on-wheels from Japanese electronics maker Hitachi Ltd., demonstrates its capabilities — moving its arms, above, and reacting to Hitachi engineer Kenjiro Yamamoto, right — Tuesday in Tokyo. The robot was developed for display at the World Exposition in Aichi, central Japan, which opens this month.



## Hitachi robot makes delicate debut

BY YURI KAGEYAMA

The Associated Press

TOKYO — Hitachi's robot-on-wheels avoids obstacles, responds to simple voice commands and reads the weather forecast.

But don't get too close just yet. Reporters invited to a demonstration by the Japanese electronics maker in Tokyo on Tuesday were instructed not to touch the two still-experimental robots for safety's sake. They also were asked not to use a camera flash at certain angles or to cross a white line on the floor.

"This robot has just been developed," explained Hitachi Ltd. official Kazuyoshi Miki. "It has barely completed first grade."

The 50-pound, 51-inch-tall robot, called EMIEW, which stands for "excellent mobility and interactive existence as workmate," is meant to be man's best

friend, working as office receptionist and document delivery person and giving directions in buildings, according to Hitachi.

The machine — with its thick barrel-like abdomen and bubbly head — was developed for display at the World Exposition in Aichi, central Japan, which opens this month. But Hitachi officials said they hope to be renting or selling such robots within five or six years.

Hitachi also plans to use EMIEW's advanced sensory and motor technology in less glamorous industrial robots that the Tokyo-based manufacturer has been developing since the 1960s.

Unlike the trend in other countries, such as military robots in the United States, Japan has been keen to develop human-looking service robots that can easily interact with people. Automakers Honda Motor Co. and Toyota Motor Corp. have developed human-shaped robots,

and electronics maker Fujitsu and Sony Corp. also offer home robots.

The two robots shown, nicknamed Pal and Chum, were equipped with digital cameras and radar sensors that allowed them to avoid obstacles in their way with a reaction time of 0.1 second.

They don't have legs but zip around on two wheels at the speed of a slow jog. They appear a bit wobbly but manage to balance themselves and won't fall, even if nudged gently.

One showed it can raise its right arm, or left arm, when commanded to do so. It also swiveled in a circle, gave directions to the bathroom and read the weather forecast.

"My name is Pal, which means 'friend,'" the mouthless robot said in Japanese in a soft electronic voice.

Its hands open and close so it can conceivably grasp objects, although it didn't pick up anything or otherwise display dexterity at the demonstration.

## Japan puts restrictions on foreign entertainers

The Associated Press

TOKYO — Foreign entertainers hoping to work in Japan must have two years' experience or education in their profession before being granted visas, officials said, as new laws came into effect Tuesday to reduce the flow of foreign women becoming sex workers here.

Some 80,000 Filipinos and 50,000 people from other nations enter Japan annually on entertainment visas, which allow a six-month stay. Many of the recipients end up working as bar hostesses or sex workers.

The entertainer visa is intended for professional athletes and performing art specialists, and beginning Tuesday anyone wanting one needs at least two years' experience or education in their stated profession to qualify, according to a statement from the Justice Ministry.

Under the old rules, foreigners accredited in their home countries as entertainers had automatically qualified for a visa.

The tougher requirements were met by protest in Manila, which had sought a postponement, but Tokyo refused.

The plight of millions of Filipino workers abroad is a sensitive issue in the Philippines, which depends on billions of dollars they remit to help prop up the country's economy.

Japan signed the United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons in December 2002, but it has been heavily criticized for not doing enough to stop the trade.

## Despite risk from volcano, residents come back to Miyake Island

BY ERIC TALMADGE

The Associated Press

MIYAKE ISLAND, Japan — As the sleepy-eyed passengers aboard the SS Sarubaru gear their bags and disembark after a seven-hour crossing from Tokyo, they are greeted by a warning that reverberates from a network of loudspeakers ringing the island.

"Gas masks must be carried on your person at all times," they hear, over and over. "Listen for further updates."

Tiny Miyake is the exposed tip of an active volcano. As the skies grow lighter, the islanders find themselves standing under a plume of white smoke and pungent sulfuric gas that roils silently upward and out over the sea.

Four and a half years ago, the nearly 4,000 people on this resort island 120 miles south of Tokyo were evacuated when the volcano at its center, 17 years dormant, exploded back to life.

As the eruptions and mudslides of September 2000 intensified, the government ordered every-

one onto ships that ferried them to evacuation centers in Tokyo.

Some 500 homes were destroyed. There were no deaths.

What awaited the islanders, however, was limbo.

With the months dragging into years and the volcanic outbursts showing no sign of subsiding, they found themselves not knowing when — or even if — they might return.

Last month, the government gave in and lifted the evacuation order.

But no one is saying the island is safe. Japan is notoriously vulnerable to seismic disaster — an earthquake in 1923 killed some 140,000 people in and around Tokyo.

Undaunted, Natsumi Maeda sits alone at her desk in the Miyake Island Tourism Association and prepares for the crowds she knows will be flocking back come spring. Miyake used to get about 80,000 each year. From now on "it'll have to carry gas masks."

"Drivers and fishermen are definitely going to return. And I hope

### Returning to life on the rim

Residents from Japan's volcanic Miyake Island are returning home more than four years after

the July 2000 eruption, even though the volcano continues to belch smoke and poisonous gas.

**Miyake Island at a glance**

**Population:** 3,829 (Sept. 2000)  
**Recorded eruptions:** 12 in the past 500 years  
**Major eruptions:** 1940 — lasted 25 days; 11 died  
July 2000 — all residents evacuated to Tokyo

**Volcano Oyama's height:** 2,686 feet

**Area:** 1,234

**Izu and Kanto:** 1,234

**Iga:** 251

**Ako:** 1,234

**Ako:** 1,234

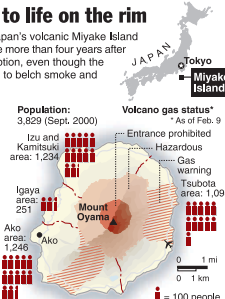
**Ako:** 1,234

**Ako:** 1,234

**Ako:** 1,234

**Ako:** 1,234

**Ako:** 1,234



SOURCES: ESRI, Miyake Island Town Office

they think people will want to come here to see our volcano," said Maeda, one of the first islanders to return.

She accepts that some parts of the island may never recover.

Roughly half of Miyake — including the crater of Mount

Oyama, the volcano, and almost all of the island's inland areas — remains off-limits.

"It's no problem here," Maeda said of the area around the pier. "But there are places that look like they are eternally in winter. All gray and dead."

Oyama is first known to have erupted in 1085. Though lava flows from previous eruptions are a common sight, its latest activity has consisted mainly of explosive bursts that send fine ash, smoke and gas skyward. It now spews up 3,000 to 10,000 tons of potentially deadly sulfur dioxide each day.

That makes the reopening of Miyake all the more controversial. An elaborate network of measurement devices, loudspeakers and warning lights lights the two-lane road around Miyake.

But the 300 or so residents who have returned since the evacuation order was lifted Feb. 1 tend to play down the whole thing.

"The gas is really the only problem. We just have to learn to live with it," Maeda said. "If you're upwind, you're OK. And you can always close your doors."

# HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY FROM YOUR YOKOSUKA MWR

## Seaside Club 243-3379

### St. Patrick's Day Special

March 17

Enjoy a delicious dinner on this very special day and try your luck before paying your check. You might be the one of the lucky customers drawing our 25%, 15%, or 10% winning ticket!

### Family Night Discount

March 18 from 1700 to 2100

Take your family for dinner and receive a 10% discount off of your entire meal tab. Family Night discount may not be combined with any other discount.

### Onoet Breakfast Special

March 25 from 0600 to 0800

Begin your day on the bright side by ordering our delicious special for only \$2.

### Easter Sunday Brunch

March 27 from 1100 to 1500

Celebrate with our delicious holiday brunch including Roast Carved Prime Rib, Baked Ham with main sauce, Broiled MahiMahi with herb butter and much, much more for only \$13.95 (adult), \$6.95 (child 8 to 11), and \$4.95 (child 4 to 7).

## Officers' Club 243-5002

### St. Patrick's Day Celebration

March 17 from 1100 to 1300 in the Kosano Dining Room from 1900 in Kurofune Lounge

Begin the luck of the Irish with our lunch special. Continue the celebration with a glass of green beer, good ole Irish food and karaoke with KJ Kenny.

### Women's History Month Luncheon

March 17 from 1100 to 1300 in the Admiralty Room  
Enjoy a delicious lunch menu for only \$8.95 per person. Guest speaker is Capt. Helen Smith. Reservations a must.

### Innisfree Irish Band

March 19

Don't miss our famous mouth-watering Prime Rib Dinner Buffet, with a touch of Irish flair, and live entertainment by the fantastic Innisfree Irish Band, direct from California, for only \$18.95 (adult), \$8.95 (child 8 to 11), \$4.95 (child 4 to 7 years) and free (child 3 years and under). Open to all hands. Reservations recommended.

### Easter Extravaganza

March 27

Celebrate the holiday with a traditional Easter Sunday Brunch Buffet, music performances by Mike Applegate, candy giveaways by Easter Bunny and many door prizes for only \$14.95 (adult), \$7.95 (child 8 to 11), \$4.95 (child 4 to 7) and free (child 3 years and below). Due to limited capacity, reservations are recommended.

## Club Alliance 243-5951

### St. Patrick's Day Celebration

March 17 at Italian Gardens

Wear something green and receive 50% off of selected menu items. All Hands Welcome.

### Salsa-Night-Gone-Green

March 17 at Sharky's

Enjoy DJ Martha playing the best salsa sounds. Enter into the Green Man/Woman Contest and you'll have a chance to win a prize for best green costume. Drink all of the green here you want, too.

### Japan Jam Comedienne

March 24 at 1900

Share belly laughs with Janet Williams and Laura Turner live in Sharky's at Club Alliance. Open to all hands. Followed by Latin Night with DJ Martha.

### Soul Train Night

March 25 at 2000

Take a look to the old school with DJ Lock pumping up all of those Soul Train jams from the 70's to 90's, along with a Soul Train Line Dance Contest with prize giveaways. All Hands Welcome.

### Special Easter Bingo

March 27

Enjoy extra chances to win big with more games, in addition to our regular games offering \$2500, \$5000 and \$10,000 jackpots. Special Easter giveaways, too. Card sales begin 1200. First game begins 1300.

## Club Takemiya 246-8075

### St. Patrick's Day Special

March 17

Come for lunch or dinner wearing something green and receive 10% discount off your total tab with purchase of any entree.

### First Day of Spring Special

March 20

Receive 25% off of your salad bar and all desserts.

### Yokosuka Jazz Band Performance

March 26 from 1700 to 2100

Enjoy the smooth sounds of live jazz.

### Country Night

March 29 from 1900 to 2300

Enjoy boot stomping, knee slapping, cowboy hat waving music.

## CPO Club 243-5606

### St. Patrick's Day Special

March 17

Wear green when you come to enjoy our delicious lunch buffet and receive \$1 off on any \$6 or more meal purchase.

### Hike No Hawaiian Music

March 19 from 1900 at the Cove Bar

Relax and unwind with aloha music from the very special Hike No band.

### Women's History Month Sizzling Spring Promotion

March 20 through 31

Celebrate with your choice of sizzling platters including Beef Topsyturky, Chicken Fajitas, Beef with Bamboo Shoots or Thai Satou. Available throughout the week, excluding Mongolian Night.

### Greek Independence Day

March 25

Receive 50% off of your Gyro Salad at lunch and 50% of your Mikanos Salad at dinner.

## Negishi Club 242-4151

### Negishi All Hands' Club Easter Brunch

March 27 from 0900 to 1400 in dining room.

### Oriental Buffet

Thursdays

### Mexican Platter

Fridays

### Prime Rib Night

Sundays

### Mongolian Barbecue

Tuesdays

### Pasta Pasta Buffet Night

Wednesdays



## Bingo! Join us at Club Alliance Every Saturday

at 1200 for your chance to take home grand prizes of \$2,500, \$5,000 or \$10,000 and a guaranteed \$1,000 giveaway for the last game. Can't wait till the weekend? Then join us at the CPO Club every Tuesday & Thursday at 1800 #1138



**Starbucks Coffee  
Now open**

**Monday - Friday 0630-2100  
Saturday & Sunday 0730-2100**

## IN THE STATES



Members of a hazardous material team walk from the Pentagon on Monday after test results detected the presence of chemical or biological agents at the Pentagon's mail delivery building. Officials shut down the facility, which is in a separate building on the northwest side of the Pentagon grounds. Another nearby facility that handles mail for the Pentagon also was shut down.

# Anthrax suspected at Pentagon

BY LAURA MECKLER

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Hundreds of postal workers were offered antibiotics Tuesday and many were taking them after initial tests detected anthrax in a pair of military mailrooms. Nobody reported symptoms of the disease as officials awaited results of further testing.

Three mail facilities were closed — two that serve the Pentagon and one in Washington that handles mail on its way to the military as well as all federal offices in the area.

In more than three years since the 2001 anthrax-by-mail attacks, there have been scores of initial tests that falsely reported anthrax in government mailrooms. In this case, however, the bacteria were detected separately in two different mailrooms, raising concerns and invoking memories of the attacks that killed five and panicked Americans still raw from the Sept. 11 attacks.

Law enforcement officials have yet to make any arrests in that investigation. White House spokesman Scott McClellan said Tuesday the case "remains a priority, remains under investigation."

Asked about suspicious results this week, McClellan said initial anthrax testing was positive, secondary testing was negative but "we're still waiting on more definitive results." He added that President Bush was being kept informed about events.

Officials said all mail that passes through the facilities is irradiated, so any anthrax should have been inert when it triggered alarms.

No criminal case has been opened in response to the initial testing this week, an FBI official said Tuesday as officials worked to figure out if actual anthrax was present.

Environmental testing was being conducted on the two military mail locations and at

the District of Columbia facility, which was closed Tuesday because it handles mail that is forwarded to the others.

Follow-up tests were being conducted at the U.S. Army Research Institute for Infectious Diseases at Fort Detrick, Md. They could take up to three days to complete.

In addition, about 260 people were tested for anthrax exposure at the Pentagon site, officials said. These exposure tests are conducted to help learn whether anthrax was present at the site, rather than to diagnose any individual.

As a precaution, antibiotics were offered to all workers at the D.C. facility, about 200 total, and to workers at the military mailrooms, about 280 at the facility on the Pentagon grounds in Arlington, Va., and 40 more at a satellite facility miles away in Fairfax County, Va.

Most of the 200 postal service workers offered the drugs were taking them, said spokesman Gerry McKiernan, though he did not have a precise count.

## Clinton home after surgery

NEW YORK — Former President Clinton left the hospital after minor surgery, saying he was "very grateful" to his medical team and "deeply" appreciated the thousands of get-well messages sent to him.

"I'm glad to be home and look forward to getting back to work within the next month or so," Clinton said in a statement issued Monday by his spokesman, Jim Kennedy.

The 42nd president's recovery was proceeding normally, and he has begun walking each day, Kennedy said. He is expected to remain at home in Chapin, about 40 miles north of Manhattan, for the next four to six weeks.

Clinton underwent surgery last week to remove scar tissue and fluid around his left lung. His medical problem developed after his heart bypass surgery six months ago.

Doctors described the operation as a low-risk procedure to relieve a problem that crops up in only a fraction of 1 percent of bypass cases. They said the combination of fluid and scar tissue had reduced Clinton's left lung capacity by 25 percent.

## 'Desperate,' not indecent

WASHINGTON — Indecency critics were thrown for a loss by federal regulators Monday over their complaints about ABC's racy "Monday Night Football" skit in November featuring actress Nicollette Sheridan and football star Terrell Owens.

The Federal Communications Commission concluded "the episode is not sufficiently explicit or graphic to be deemed indecent."

The segment, aired before the Philadelphia Eagles-Dallas Cowboys game, began with Eagles wide receiver Owens in a locker room with "Desperate Housewives" star Sheridan dressed in only a towel.

Sheridan coyly asked Owens to skip the upcoming game. When he declined, she dropped the towel and was shown from behind from the waist up.

From The Associated Press

# WorldCom's Ebbers guilty on all counts

BY ERIN MCCLAM

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Bernard Ebbers, who built WorldCom from a humble Mississippi long-distance firm into a telecommunications titan, was convicted Tuesday of engineering the colossal accounting fraud that sank the company.

A federal jury in Manhattan deliberated eight days before returning guilty verdicts on one count of conspiracy, one count of securities fraud and seven counts of false regulatory filings — crimes carrying up to 85 years in prison.

When the verdict was read, Ebbers' face reddened. His wife, Christie, and other family members broke into tears.

Sentencing was set for June 13. The conviction comes more than two years after an internal auditor began asking questions about curious accounting at WorldCom, touching off a scan-

dal that eventually unearthed \$11 billion in cooked books.

Prosecution testimony at the six-week trial portrayed Ebbers, 63, as obsessed with keeping WorldCom's stock price high, and panicked about \$400 million in personal loans that were backed by his shares in the company.

Ebbers himself took the witness stand late in the trial, insisting that he was unfamiliar with the details of accounting and knew nothing about the fraud taking place on his watch.

The star witness against him was Scott Sullivan, the former finance chief, who claimed Ebbers repeatedly ordered him to "hit our numbers" — a command, Sullivan said, to falsify the books to meet Wall Street expectations.

Sullivan, who himself has pleaded guilty to fraud, admitted to essentially masterminding the fraud — but said he did it on the clear instructions of Ebbers, who ignored his repeated pleas that the adjustments were wrong.

## Spring Auto Loans.

Payments to fit your budget. Apply Today.

1 APR = Annual Percentage Rate. All rates shown reflect a 2005 APR rate reduction for automatic payment from your CommunityBank checking or savings account. Other rates and terms may apply and will be determined by credit history and loan application. Rates change without notice. Credit subject to approval. Example: A 3-year fixed rate \$20,000 loan for a rate car. Based on a simple interest rate of 3.37%, this loan would have 120 monthly payments of \$457.00 and an overall payment of \$54,840.20 and an annual percentage rate (APR) of 3.37%. This example assumes automatic deduction of the loan payments from a CommunityBank checking account. Increasing the rate and APR by 20% (to 6.74%) would lead to a loan increasing the rate.

# 3.37%

AS LOW AS 3.37% APR

DoCommunityBank.com

**CommunityBank**

Operated by Bank of America Member FDIC



# Atlanta shooting suspect appears before magistrate

BY BILL POOVEY

The Associated Press

ATLANTA — Surrounded by 19 officers in a cinder-block jail room, the suspect in a rampage that left a judge and three others dead went before a magistrate Tuesday and was informed that authorities plan to charge him with murder.

Brian Nichols, his hands and ankles shackled, appeared before Cobb County Magistrate Judge Frank Cox on the same rape charge that he was on trial for Friday when he escaped from another courthouse.

Nichols spoke only once at the hearing, when Cox asked him if he had any questions.

"Not at this time," he said.

Officers lined the walls of the room during Tuesday's hearing.

Authorities said Nichols had been alone with a female deputy Friday when he stole her gun and then shot to death the judge presiding over his rape case and two others.

He also is accused of killing a federal agent as he eluded police.

Security cameras had been rolling Friday morning as Nichols — a former college linebacker who had been found in court earlier in

the week with two homemade knives in his shoes — overpowered deputy Cynthia Hall as the 5-foot-tall officer escorted him to his rape trial. No one was monitoring the cameras.

Authorities said Nichols escaped the courthouse in a Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority train. They said he took the train north to a pricey neighborhood where he allegedly gunned down a federal agent.

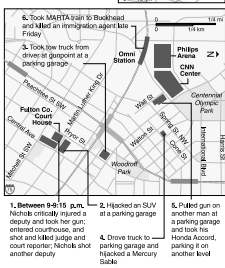
"I don't understand why they didn't have the MARTA staked out," said Maryanne Fry, a neighbor of slain immigration agent David Wilhelm. "I really wish they had."

As Nichols vanished from the courthouse, investigators focused on finding the car they believed he was in. Thirteen hours later, the car was found in the same parking garage where it was carjacked minutes after the shooting.

MARTA spokeswoman Jocelyn

## On the run

Brian Nichols faces federal and state charges in the deaths of a judge, court reporter, deputy and federal agent. Nichols was being released for rape and other charges Friday when he escaped. Police account of what happened is described below.



SOURCE: Metro Journal/Contributor Atlanta Police Department

Baker said investigators are still reviewing surveillance videos for evidence that Nichols was on a commuter train.

Cox was brought in to hear the case after all the judges in Fulton County excused themselves because of their relationships with Judge Rowland Barnes and the other victims.

Officials declared a mistrial in Nichols' second rape trial Monday. His first trial was a mistrial as well.

# Bidding finished on alleged 9/11 Pentagon flag

The Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va. — An American flag said to have been hanging from a construction crane at the Pentagon during the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attack received a final bid of \$371,300 on eBay Monday, but the cancer patient auctioning it said it could have brought more money.

David Nicholson, 44, of Orange, Va., auctioned the flag to raise money for highly specialized treatment for his kidney cancer. But he said the construction company that gave him the flag questioned its authenticity during the 10-day online auction, bringing down its final price. "With this cancer, I don't need nothing else right now," Nicholson said Monday evening, referring to Maryland-based Facchina Construction Co.'s claims it did not have a crane at the Pentagon on Sept. 11.

As part of the auction, Nicholson was giving a letter of authenticity signed by a site supervisor with Facchina Construction.

During the auction, an attorney for Facchina sent a letter to eBay stating that it did not have a crane on site Sept. 11, it did not issue a certificate of authenticity and did not authorize any certificate.

The auction was allowed to continue after Nicholson faxed eBay a copy of the letter.

Nicholson said he hoped the high bidder, Todd Schimmel, of Mound, Minn., would go through with the purchase.

In May 2002, Nicholson owned an auction house in Orange where he found the flag tucked away among several boxes of debris from a Pentagon site under construction when the terrorist attack occurred. The flag was featured on several major news networks.

When he learned he had an aggressive form of kidney cancer Nicholson decided to sell the flag to defray medical costs.

"I've got to do what I've got to do," Nicholson said. "Maybe that's why I found the flag."

# AMANIS

## T O K Y O

The most luxurious Bar & vip lounge in Roppongi !!!!

Enjoy a fine selection of wines,whiskeys ,cocktails & cigars

See all your favorite sports on 12 plasma screens

full dinner menu available

Karaoke-darts-free pool

**NEWLY OPENED**

open 7 days a week from 5pm

Reservations 03-5474-5547

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Don't forget to try our

Salomon Higashi st.

AMANIS

Subway

1 Hour Special

Salomon Higashi st.

# Study: Diversity missing in state government

BY MATT SMITH  
The Associated Press

ALBANY, N.Y. — Blacks and Hispanics have no trouble getting tapped to lead civil rights commissions, but the same can't be said when it comes to other top-ranking state government jobs nationwide, a new study shows.

"I don't know if I would call it tokenism as I would occupational segregation," said report author Judith Saidel, director of the Center for Women in Government & Civil Society at the State University of New York at Albany.

Titled "Democracy Unrealized," the study notes the 2000 U.S. Census showed

minorities made up 32 percent of the nation's population, but just 16 percent held key appointed policy positions in state governments in 2004.

"There's a number of possible reasons at play here," Saidel said. "We are in a post-affirmative action period. In general, there's a climate less supportive of proactive efforts to identify people of color for various positions."

Michael King, an Atlanta resident and member of the national conservative black group Project 21, said the report, out last month, seemed like it was "engineered to justify an argument."

He noted that with battles ongoing over affirmative action in California, Michi-

gan and Georgia, there is "no logical way you can call this a post-affirmative action period."

King also disputed the suggestion that any advancement by minorities has stopped. "When you look at the number of individuals across the nation both in elective and appointed office, the numbers are certainly increasing," he said.

The report looked only at states where minority groups totaled five percent or more of the population.

Leadership jobs referred specifically to agency commissioner or gubernatorial adviser.

While blacks made up 12 percent of the U.S. population in 2000, they held 10 per-

cent of the state government policy-leader posts last year.

Blacks held an equitable share of leadership jobs in 11 of 29 states surveyed. Those states include: Indiana, Massachusetts, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia and Wisconsin.

Asian Americans and American Indians, who made up a combined 5 percent of the population in the 2000 Census, held just 2 percent of the top posts in 2004, the report said, a finding Saidel called "most dismal."

Hispanics, meanwhile, held the lowest share of executive positions at four percent, despite making up 13 percent of the nation's population.

## Mob family looking for a new chief, insiders say

BY TOM TRONCONE

The (Bergen County, N.J.) Record

HACKENSACK, N.J. — With the reputed acting boss and underboss charged in a federal racketeering indictment, the tattered remains of what was once the nation's most glorified and perhaps most ruthless — crime family — are up for grabs.

And when the dust settles, someone other than a Gotti, or Gotti appointee, may run the Gambino family for the first time since the mid-1980s, authorities say.

Two reputed ranking family members, Joseph and Nicholas Corozzo, are being talked about as the possible next boss, said people familiar with the inner workings of the family.

"Looks like Little Nicky and his brother JoJo are back in the driver's seat," a onetime mob insider said. "Power struggle begins."

Authorities created a power vacuum on Wednesday when Arnold "Zeke" Squitieri, 69, of Englewood Cliffs became the latest in a long line of alleged Gambino crime family leaders slapped with racketeering charges.

First there was John J. Gotti. Then John A. Gotti. Then Peter Gotti.

Just how much luster the Gambino family has lost since the mid-1980s is exemplified by the rapid ascension of Squitieri, a Harlem-bred, heroin-dealing tough guy, to acting boss, authorities said.

Alternately known as "Zeke," "Bozzy," "Sylvester" and "The Animal," Squitieri is a veteran of the notorious "Purple Gang," which controlled heroin trafficking in Harlem in the 1970s. He also was a John J. Gotti confidant who spent many late nights partying with the Dapper Don, those familiar with both men said.

"John loved this guy," said Bruce Mouw, a retired FBI agent who for 18 years headed the New York City's Gambino unit. "But he was not qualified to be the underboss, let alone acting boss of the family."

# Save 50% on Selected toys!

## AAFES Yokota Four Seasons Easter Toy Clearance Sale

### March 19 - 20

**AAFES**  
aafes.com...open all the time!

Open 1000-1900 daily  
Brands may vary - Limited to stock on hand.

# U2, others welcomed in rock's hall of fame

BY NEKESA MUMBI MOODY  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Over U2's 30-year journey from the streets of Dublin to becoming one of the world's most important rock bands, there have often been times when the charisma, charitable and business efforts of the group's frontman Bono have eclipsed his collaborators and lifelong friends U2's other members. Guitarist The Edge, bassist Adam Clayton and drummer Larry Mullen Jr. But on Monday evening, if not always back to others, their rock peers recognized the collabora-

tive achievements of perhaps the most legendary rock group in the past two decades.

"Uno, dos, tres, cuatro," said Bruce Springsteen, quoting the Spanish countdown in U2's recent hit "Vertigo," as he inducted the band into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame with a loving, humorous tribute.

"The translation is one, two, three, fourteen. That is the correct math for rock 'n' roll. The whole had better equal a lot more than the sum of its parts — or else you're just rubbing two sticks together."

On a night when The Pretend-

ers, The O'Jays, Percy Sledge and blues legend Buddy Guy received keys to rock's exclusive club, U2 was clearly the evening's star attraction. But they were hardly the evening's only highlight.

The O'Jays are best known for their work with Philly soul producers Kenny Gamble and Leon Huff. "Back Stabbers" was a big hit in 1972, with "Love Train" and "For the Love of Money" other well-known songs.

After film clips showed them in wild dances during the 1970s, the quartet wore simple black suits to perform a medley including each of those songs. They were inducted by singer Justin Timberlake.

"Anyone who's ever written, produced or performed something soulful stands in the shadows of these giants," Timberlake said.

If nothing else, Sledge's voice has been the backdrop to countless romantic encounters. The Southern soul singer is best known for "When a Man Loves a Woman."

The Pretenders came from the same rock generation as U2. Ohio native Chrissie Hynde was a tough but tender role model for women, singing "Brass in Pocket," "Precious" and "Back on the Chain Gang."

Celebrating the 50th anniversary of rock 'n' roll, the hall — also

celebrating its 20th induction dinner — brought Bo Diddley in to perform the Bo Diddley beat with fellow guitarist Eric Clapton and Bob Robertson.

Now a stooped old man, Jerry Lee Lewis moved slowly to the stage to perform "Whole Lotta Shakin' Goin' On." But he still managed to kick over his stool and sit on the piano keys.

Guy dominated the Chicago blues guitar scene, and he was ushered into the hall by some pretty decent guitar players themselves — Eric Clapton and B.B. King. Later, both joined Guy onstage for a rollicking rendition of "Let Me Love You Baby."

SAN DIEGO L.A.
IACE TRAVEL NETWORK  
www.iace.co.jp/english
SEATTLE ATLANTA

**IACE TRAVEL**

Call us last for the best price.

**Call us last for the best price.**

**THE VISIT "IACE" CAMPAIGN!!!**

Reservation 2 people in a group... 2% OFF!  
Reservation more than 2 people in a group... 5% OFF!!!

**\*JAPAN LOCAL TOURS\*** — LET'S GO TO JAPAN!

Hakone & Onsen 2 Days • Bullet Train • \$99

Kyoto 2 Days • with 1 Day Bus Pass • \$185

Universal Studios Japan 2 Days • \$272

**\*DISCOUNTED INTERNATIONAL AIR TICKETS\***

USA 1 CITY/NORTHWEST \$693-31 MON-FRI \$490

USA 1 CITY/NORTHWEST \$693-31 MON-FRI \$580

USA 1 CITY/NORTHWEST \$693-31 MON-FRI \$710

**\*USA-JAPAN AIR TICKETS\*** — INVITE YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS!

FROM LOS ANGELES \$20-31 MON-FRI \$485

FROM NEW YORK \$20-31 MON-FRI \$582

**\*LAST MINUTE SPECIAL!!\***

USA SELECTED 1CITY \$486~ 3/18-3/31 MON-FRI

AII USA 1CITY \$602~ 3/18-3/31 MON-FRI

SEOUL \$246~ 3/23-3/31

MANILA \$381~ 3/23-3/31

**\*Special Fare !! after April!\***

USA EAST 1CITY \$583~ 4/1-4/14 SUN-FRI

LOS ANGELES \$374~ 4/1-4/14 MON-FRI

MANILA \$369~ 4/15

SINGAPOLE \$340~ 4/1-4/12

**\*PACKAGE\*** (Based on double occupancy)

BEIJING DAYS WITH SIGHTSEEING \$811~ 4/1-4/12 (EX.TUE)

BEIJING AND SHANGHAI DAYS \$1,075~ 4/1-4/12 (EX.TUE)

**Good News!**

**GET \$10 OFF COUPON**

with purchase of \$500 or more (per ticket)!!

\*Only available when you come to our Yokosuka/Asahi office  
\*This coupon is valid after your next international trip from Japan  
\*Other restrictions may apply. Please ask agent for more details!

**IMPORTANT** (Other restrictions may apply)

Campaign prices are for cash payment.  
Credit cards accepted (Visa/MasterCard/Discover)  
Price may vary depending on departure date.  
Subject to availability  
Tax not included in these prices.  
Please inform us if you read after these prices in Stars & Stripes.  
\*Means starting from these prices  
Japan Domestic Package require 10days advance.  
Last minute booking OK!

**FROM FUKUOKA**

**FLYING TO MANILA SPECIAL**

**GOOD FOR 14 DAYS \$428~** 4/1-4/21

**GOOD FOR 14 DAYS \$578~** 4/1-4/21

**GOOD FOR 2 MONTH \$858~** 4/1-4/26

**Package Tour**

USA(1CITY) \$678~ 4/1-4/21

NEW YORK \$598~ 4/1-4/13

LOS ANGELES \$458~ 4/1-4/13

HONOLULU \$488~ 4/1-4/21

**GUAM FREE** \$498~ ASK DATE

**FLAN 4DAYS** \$618~ ASK DATE

**JAPAN Domestic Tour**

OKINAWA 2DAYS \$228~ ASK DATE

TOKYO 2DAYS \$368~ ASK DATE

**FROM MISAWA**

**Spring Special**

**BEIJING LOS ANGELES**

**\$625~ \$725~**

3/14-3/17 3/14-12, 26-31

**\*PAYMENT MADE EASY! (PAYMENTS CAN BE MADE IN US CASH IN MISAWA BASE.)\***

**LAST-MINUTE SPECIAL** — From MISAWA

USA 1 CITY \$749~ 3/14-3/17 MON-FRI

MANILA \$745~ 3/14-3/18

BANGKOK \$759~ 3/14-3/17

HONOLULU \$799~ 3/14-15, 17

SEOUL from Asahi \$435~ 3/23-30

**APRIL SPECIAL** — From MISAWA

LOS ANGELES \$699~ 4/1-4/14

USA WEST COAST \$865~ 4/1-4/12 MON-FRI

USA EAST COAST \$740~ 4/1-4/13 MON-FRI

MANILA \$695~ 4/1-4/25

HONG KONG \$759~ 4/1-4/22

SHANGHAI \$799~ 4/1-4/21

HONOLULU \$670~ 4/1-4/21

**FROM HIROSHIMA**

**Package Tour**

**TOKYO 2DAYS \$308~**

(IN ECONOMY HOTEL)

\*4/1-4/26, 5/6-5/20(Sun-Wed, Fri, Sat)

\*FOR CANCELLATION, RESERVATION MUST BE DONE BY 10 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE.

**INTERNATIONAL PACKAGE**

**BEIJING 4DAYS** \$750~

**HONG KONG 4DAYS** \$788~

**SINGAPORE 4DAYS** \$888~

**For YOKOSUKA, OTHER KANTO USA, CUSTOMERS**

**046-828-6471**

FAX: 046-828-6755

e-mail: yks@iace.co.jp

MON-FRI 10:00-18:30 • SAT 9:00-17:00

**For YOKOTA CUSTOMERS**

**042-539-4430**

FAX: 042-539-4432

e-mail: yokota@iace.co.jp

MON-FRI 10:00-18:00 • SAT 9:00-17:00

**For IWAKUNI CUSTOMERS**

**0120-977-4333**

FAX: 026-544-5433

e-mail: hij@iace.co.jp

MON-FRI 10:00-18:00 • SAT 10:00-17:00

**For SASEBO CUSTOMERS**

**0120-922-154**

FAX: 026-483-1110

e-mail: fuk@iace.co.jp

MON-FRI 10:00-19:00 • SAT 10:00-17:00

**For MISAWA CUSTOMERS**

**0120-65-4223**

FAX: 011-219-2766

e-mail: sak@iace.co.jp

MON-FRI 10:00-19:00 • SAT 10:00-17:00

**For YOKOSUKA, OTHER KANTO USA, CUSTOMERS**

**046-828-6471**

FAX: 046-828-6755

e-mail: yks@iace.co.jp

MON-FRI 10:00-18:30 • SAT 9:00-17:00



## FACES

# When fans get fanatic

Famous figures often forced to deal with out-of-control devotees

BY DERRIK J. LANG

The Associated Press

NEW YORK

They're out there.

Catherine Zeta-Jones, Sheryl Crow and Mel Gibson recently faced theirs in court. Anna Kournikova's took a nude swim to find her. Andrea Evans feared hers for a decade.

They're celebrity stalkers, perpetrators of an emotional crime that's often — but not always — the result of mental illness.

Despite a recent rash of cases, experts say the act of celebrity stalking isn't increasing, but stars are more willing to go to police when confronted. And, of course, the media is more likely to cover subsequent arrests and trials. All this has led to specialized police units and even entire businesses aimed at dealing with a troubled few.

Evans was playing soap part Tina Clayton on "One Life to Live" in the 1980s when her stalker showed up several times at her Manhattan set. He once slashed his wrists outside the studios, then used Evans' name as his next-of-kin.

"All of a sudden, I went from a nice happy-go-lucky life to having regular conversations with the police," Evans said. "This was before people were that aware. There was a great disbelief that here this man was trying to harm me and the police could do nothing about it."

After three years of living in terror, Evans quit "One Life to Live" and dropped out of public view. She wouldn't be seen on a soap again until 1999.

Following the murder of "My

Sister Sam" actress Rebecca Schaeffer in 1989 and incidents like Evans', the government, Hollywood and the world began to recognize celebrity stalking about 1990.

Laws now exist in all states to combat stalking in some form or another. In Los Angeles, the LAPD's Threat Management Unit exclusively tackles stalking. In 2004, it handled 60 celebrity cases. That's typical, according to the unit's leader, Det. Jeff Dunn.

"I think there's a rise in reporting," said Dunn. "Early in the '90s, there was reluctance for fear of negative publicity. I don't think they were widely reported. Now in 2005, you can't turn on the TV without seeing a story about some sort of stalking. It doesn't carry the negative stigma anymore."



AP photos

Above: William Leveska, far left, was accused in February of stalking tennis player Anna Kournikova. Right: Dawnette Knight pleaded no contest in June to stalking and threatening actress Catherine Zeta-Jones. Far right: Mel Gibson leaves the Los Angeles Superior Court on March 3 after testifying against Zack Sinclair, who was convicted the next day of stalking him.

## VOLVO CARS MILITARY SALES. IT'S A GREAT DEAL.






**VOLVO** TRIPLE J MOTORS  
for life

Email us at [militarysales@triplejgum.com](mailto:militarysales@triplejgum.com)  
157 S. Marine Corps Drive, Tamuning, Guam 96913 • Tel: 649-6555 • Fax 649-9487

Order your new Volvo through us and save thousands off U.S. prices\*  
We'll handle the details and make sure that your new Volvo is waiting for you back home. Call or e-mail us today to find out how.

\*Some conditions apply.

### MARCH CAMPAIGN

3/14 - 3/31

USA E/C (1 STOP)	\$42,800 - \$407
SEATTLE (DIRECT)	\$44,800 - \$426
LOS ANGELES, PORTLAND	\$44,800 - \$426
SHANGHAI, BEIJING	\$31,000 - \$295
HONG KONG (DIRECT)	\$33,500 - \$319
MANILA	\$37,500 - \$357

## AirNet TRAVEL

www.airnetjapan.com

FRIENDLY AIRNET CHEAP TRAVEL

ATTENTION ALL BARGAIN SHOPPERS! JUST CALL

AIRNET WILL MATCH ANY REASONABLE PRICE

### APRIL CAMPAIGN

4/1 - 4/20

LOS ANGELES (DIRECT)	\$38,500 - \$366	BANGKOK (DIRECT)	\$37,500 - \$357
HONOLULU (DIRECT)	\$45,500 - \$433	MANILA (2 UP)	\$37,500 - \$357
SYDNEY	\$52,500 - \$500	SINGAPORE (DIRECT)	\$37,500 - \$357
BRISBANE	\$55,500 - \$519	VIETNAM (2 UP)	\$37,500 - \$357
PARIS	\$54,500 - \$519		

### AIR-HOTEL

3 DAYS / 2N

SEOUL	\$27,500 - \$261
GUAM	\$32,500 - \$309
HONG KONG (3 DAYS / 2N)	\$39,500 - \$376
OKINAWA (2 DAYS / 1N)	\$25,500 - \$242
KYOTO (2 DAYS / 1N / TRAIN)	\$18,500 - \$176

### U.S.A. TO JAPAN

SPECIAL FARES AVAILABLE, PLEASE CALL

BUSINESS HOURS

MON-FRI 9:30-18:30 SAT 10:00-15:00

FAX: 03-5456-5678

[shb@airnetjapan.com](http://shb@airnetjapan.com)

**03-5456-5677**

**046-820-1180**

FAX: 046-820-1181

[yok@airnetjapan.com](http://yok@airnetjapan.com)

### YOKOSUKA (BRANCH)

YOKOSUKA NAVA L BASH

HONDA RAIL

YOKOSUKA BISHI

HOTEL YOKOSUKA

HERE 3F

### KANTERE CO LTD.

CARS, VANS, SUV'S, USED CARS

We buy, sell, export...

Do you want to know THE REST OF THE STORY?

Call NOW!

Jorge Herbert

Tel: 045-781-7521

ESPANOL OK

[http://www.kanterecolimitas\\_exporting.html](http://www.kanterecolimitas_exporting.html)



# Jackson's accuser finishes up his testimony

BY TIM MOLLOY

The Associated Press

SANTA MARIA, Calif. — Michael Jackson's accuser testified Tuesday that he told a school administrator the singer didn't molest him because schoolmates were "making fun of me" and he wanted them to stop.

The 15-year-old boy offered the testimony under questioning by District Attorney Tom Sneddon after Jackson attorney Thomas Mesereau Jr. concluded his

## Teenager attempts to explain earlier denial of abuse

lengthy cross-examination of the witness.

It was revealed during the cross-examination Monday that the boy had told Jeffrey Alpert, a dean at John Burroughs Middle School in Los Angeles, that nothing had happened to him during stays at Jackson's Neverland ranch.

The conversation was prompted by a TV documentary that

showed Jackson with the boy and in which Jackson acknowledged sharing his bed with children, although he characterized the encounters as innocent and non-sexual.

The boy testified that when he returned from his last stay at Neverland in March 2003, schoolmates made fun of him, saying he had been "raped" by Jackson.

He said he got in several fights

as a result and had to talk to Alpert, who asked him if he had been molested.

"I told him that it didn't happen," the boy said.

"All the kids were already making fun of me at the school and I didn't want anyone to think it had really happened."

He also said he once got in a fight for refusing to join a gang.

On Monday, Mesereau ques-

tioned the boy about a history of disciplinary problems as he sought to show that the boy talked back to teachers, disrupted classes and fought with other students.

Before the boy left the stand, Sneddon asked him what he thinks of Jackson now.

"I don't really like him anymore," the boy said. "I don't really think he's deserving of the respect I was giving him as the coolest guy in the world."

Mesereau completed his cross-examination by quizzing the boy about times when he and his family left Neverland during a period that prosecutors claim they were captives.

The boy said he didn't take advantage of several opportunities to escape because he didn't want to leave.

Prosecutors contend the boy's family was held captive for more than a month because Jackson wanted to get them to make a video rebutting the damaging TV documentary about Jackson that aired on Feb. 6, 2003.

Mesereau asked him about several trips he took from Neverland to surrounding communities and asked him why he didn't try to get help on the trips.

"Those first few escapes you talked about — I liked being at Neverland. It was like Disneyland," the boy said.

The boy said his mother was the one who wanted to escape.

He said he didn't want to flee Neverland until the family left for good in March 2003.

## Blake jury asks to review evidence

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Jurors in the Robert Blake murder trial asked Tuesday to review more witness testimony as they try to decide if the actor killed his wife.

It was the second time the panel, now in its seventh full day of deliberations, has sought to have testimony read back.

The latest request involves statements by a retired stuntman who claimed Blake solicited him to kill Ronny Lee Bakley. The jury wanted to review his testimony about a criminal case he recently settled with a plea bargain.

The jury also wanted to review the statements of author Miles Corwin about his book, "Homicide Special: A Year with the LAPD's Elite Detective Unit." Corwin was with detectives as they investigated the killing.

Blake, 71, is accused of killing Bakley, 44, who was shot to death in 2001 near a restaurant where the two had just dined.

Prosecutors say he killed Bakley after allegedly failing to get others to do it for him.

## THE FACE OF WAR HAS CHANGED.



Photo courtesy Soldier Magazine

## HAS YOURS?



ESS CDI™



ESS LAND OPS™



ESS PROFILE NVG™



ESS ICE™

## Advanced Military Eyewear You Can Trust



Available at your AAFES MCSS or Desert PX. NSNs Available.

ess@essgoggles.com  
www.essgoggles.com  
877.726.4072



Eye Safety Systems, Inc.

ESS Products are authorized for use in the US Military

## YOUR MONEY

# MILITARY UPDATE

## Lawmaker: A vets aren't equal

Tom Philpott

### VA chairman says new generation comes with new health care needs

Rep. Steve Buyer, R-Ind., new chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Committee, says the medical and rehabilitation needs of a new generation of war veterans leave him more certain today than Congress agreed in 1996 when it opened VA health care to any veteran willing to pay modest fees.

"While some veterans' organizations like to create a theme, that 'A veteran is a veteran [and] there is no difference,' I disagree," said Buyer (pronounced boo-yer).

A decade ago, in the wake of a Persian Gulf War, said satirically few U.S. casualties, the Department of Veterans Affairs went back to worrying about an aging patient population and underused VA clinics and hospitals, Buyer said. Those concerns, along with wishful thinking about the VA billing veterans-provided insurance plans for the cost of care, led Congress to open VA facilities to veterans neither poor nor disabled.

Time has shown that to be a mistake, Buyer said. Today the VA has \$3 billion in "uncollected debt" for health care rendered that insurance companies have not paid.

"And we find ourselves now in protracted wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and the war on terror all over the world. So the sense from 1996 that we could open up the VA to protect the bricks and mortar because of a declining population of veterans," Buyer said, is replaced by "the reality that we have more veterans now that have to come into the system."

Buyer's comments came in an interview for this column days after his committee voted to impose an enrollment fee of \$230 to \$500 a year on 2.4 million veterans in priority categories 7 and 8 — those who are not poor and have no service-connected disability.

In January, Republican leaders removed Rep. Christopher Smith, R-N.J., as committee chairman for being too close to veterans groups, too supportive of expanding benefits and too dismissive of Bush administration plans to slow VA spending and impose fees on low-priority veterans.

New chairman Buyer, 46, is a blunt-spoken attorney and Citadel graduate who was deployed in the first Gulf War as an Army Reserve lawyer. With oversight responsibility now for the second-largest department in government, Buyer said he has three short-term priorities.

■ **Re-focus VA health care on its "core constituency"** of service-disabled, indigent and special-needs veterans.

■ **Develop a "seamless transition"** process for veterans moving from active duty to VA care. So far more than 100,000 have been wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan and as many as 100,000 could have post-traumatic stress disorder, Buyer said. "The VA needs to prepare to receive them."

■ **Improve VA rehabilitation and vocational training** to ensure that even the most severely injured veterans return to rewarding lives.

"For a lot of years," Buyers said, "it was,

'Here's your check. Good luck in your life. And if you find it in a bottle, we'll try to get you in a program.' I want the system to be far more personal."

Buyer also said he expects a new bipartisan Veterans' Disability Benefits Commission, which will hold its first meeting soon, to review whether Congress went too far in allowing concurrent receipt of military retirement and VA disability payments. Buyer said that as chairman of the House subcommittee on military personnel a few years ago, he "four or five million" to lift the concurrent receipt ban only for 100 percent, combat-disabled retirees.

"Little did I realize that my care and concern would be so enveloped" by politics, he said, and the ban quickly lifted to benefit few hundred thousand retirees, many having no combat-related disability.

Buyer also expects the commission to consider whether to change the way disability ratings are set or to tighten the definition of "service-connected" injuries or ailments.

"There is something bothersome in the system where you can have a soldier blow out his knee from a roadside bomb and end up with a disability that's the same as a guy who blew out his knee sliding into home plate at church softball on Sunday," said Buyer. "Is that the type of disability system that is just and fair?"

To comment, write Military Update, P.O. Box 231111, Centerville, VA 20120-1111, e-mail milupdate@aol.com or visit www.militaryupdate.com

### Play your cards right

Charles Weber of Alexandria, Va., noticed an alarming "change in terms" alert on his latest Citibank MasterCard bill: "For each purchase made in a foreign currency, we add an additional finance charge of 3 percent of the amount of the purchase plus conversion into U.S. dollars."

Weber, in addition to being angry, was curious. "How prevalent has this policy become?" he asked us in an e-mail.

Increasingly prevalent. The nonprofit advocacy group Consumer Action last spring surveyed 45 companies that issue credit cards and found that 26 were adding currency conversion fees — up from 17 the year before. What you need to know:

■ **When converting overseas charges into dollars**, Visa uses the wholesale exchange rate plus a 3 percent conversion fee. MasterCard and American Express add 2 percent.

■ **The companies that issue Visa and MasterCard** add another fee, typically 1 percent to 3 percent. (American Express issues its own cards.)

■ **Issuing companies** that don't add an extra fee: Capital One, MBNA and numerous smaller banks and credit unions.

■ **When issuing companies** that do charge an extra fee: Bank of America, Citibank, Chase Manhattan and Wells Fargo.

■ **Our advice:** No matter how you spend money overseas, there is no way to avoid foreign currency exchange fees. Credit cards remain a good option — if you play your cards right.

From The Washington Post

### MONDAY'S MARKET SUMMARY

INDEXES					
	52-week High	52-week Low	Index	Net Chg	% YTD 52-week Chg
Dow Jones Industrial	13,884.46	9,702.00	13,836.51	+33.75	+2.30
Dow Jones Transp.	3,889.97	2,743.46	3,846.60	+22.51	+0.59
Dow Jones Indus.	353.61	258.06	350.62	+1.86	+0.57
NASDAQ Composite	7,485.08	6,211.33	7,331.89	+23.46	+0.32
NYSE Composite	1,539.14	1,150.74	1,542.59	+0.85	+0.05
Russell 2000	1,971.09	1,750.82	2,051.94	+4.46	+0.22
S&P 500	1,223.11	1,064.72	1,247.50	+0.75	+0.06
S&P 500	683.36	549.29	684.04	+0.13	+0.02
S&P 500	656.11	515.59	657.00	+0.30	+0.05
Dow Jones Indus.	12,108.53	10,626.52	12,108.53	+0.00	+0.00

NYSE			AMEX			NASDAQ				
Most Active (\$1 or more)			Most Active (\$1 or more)			Most Active (\$1 or more)				
NYSE	Last	Change	AMEX	Last	Change	NASDAQ	Last	Change		
128	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Nasdaq100	645433	27.14	+1.70
129	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
130	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
131	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
132	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
133	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
134	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
135	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
136	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
137	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
138	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
139	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
140	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
141	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
142	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
143	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
144	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
145	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
146	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
147	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
148	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
149	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
150	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
151	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
152	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
153	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
154	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
155	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
156	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
157	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
158	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
159	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
160	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
161	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
162	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
163	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
164	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
165	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
166	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
167	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
168	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
169	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
170	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
171	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
172	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
173	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
174	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
175	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
176	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
177	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
178	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
179	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
180	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
181	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
182	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
183	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
184	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
185	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
186	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
187	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
188	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
189	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
190	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
191	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
192	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
193	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
194	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
195	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
196	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
197	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
198	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
199	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
200	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
201	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
202	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
203	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
204	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
205	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
206	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
207	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
208	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
209	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
210	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
211	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
212	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
213	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
214	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
215	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
216	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
217	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
218	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
219	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
220	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
221	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
222	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
223	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
224	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
225	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
226	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
227	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
228	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
229	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
230	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
231	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
232	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
233	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
234	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
235	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
236	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
237	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
238	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
239	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
240	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
241	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
242	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
243	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
244	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
245	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
246	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01
247	2.93	+0.01	SPDR	352947	121.14	+0.75	Microsoft	65.11	0.11	+0.01

KEY DEFENSE STOCKS				KEY MUTUAL FUNDS			
Name	DE	FE	Chg %	Name	MAY	Chg %	YTD
Alliant Technology	81	72.28	+8.48	Fidelity Asset: Global	21.89	+2.21	+0.3
Boeing	100	25.71	+41.15	Fidelity Asset: Global	42.84	+2.34	+0.3
Boeing	100	25.71	+41.15	Fidelity Asset: Global	42.84	+2.34	+0.3
Boeing	100	25.71	+41.15	Fidelity Asset: Global	42.84	+2.34	+0.3
Boeing	100	25.71	+41.15	Fidelity Asset: Global	42.84	+2.34	+0.3
Boeing	100	25.71	+41.15	Fidelity Asset: Global	42.84	+2.34	+0.3
Boeing	100	25.71	+41.15	Fidelity Asset: Global	42.84	+2.34	+0.3
Boeing	100	25.71	+41.15	Fidelity Asset: Global	42.84	+2.34	+0.3
Boeing	100	25.71	+41.15	Fidelity Asset: Global	42.84	+2.34	+0.3
Boeing	100	25.71	+41.15	Fidelity Asset: Global	42.84	+2.34	+0.3

### EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates		
Japanese yen (March 15)	101.00	
South Korean won (March 15)	975.00	
Euro cents (March 15)	66.78	
Dollar buys (March 15)	+0.7627	
British pound (March 15)	\$1.57	
Commercial rates		
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.377	
British pound	\$1.9147	
Bulgaria (Lev)	1.9364	
Denmark (Krone)	6.5579	
Euro (Euro)	\$1.3368/74.00	
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7995	
Hungary (Forint)	162.54	
Iceland (Krona)	60.005	
Ireland (Euro)	7.4756	
Japan (Yen)	109.53	
Korea (Won)	6.1161	
Philippines (Peso)	53.90	
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7495	
Singapore (Dollar)	99.71	
South Korea (Won)	109.53	
Switzerland (Franc)	75.00	
Thailand (Baht)	38.33	
Turkey (New Lira)	1.4044	

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. In the U.S., purchasing British pounds in Germany, you will pay your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference only. Buying currency. All figures are foreign currency values to one dollar except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars and pence, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

PRECIOUS METALS			
Name	PRICE	CHG	YTD
Gold	\$441.10	+0.10	+0.10
Silver	\$7.38	+0.01	+0.01
Platinum	\$950.00	+0.00	+0.00
Palladium	\$1,500.00	+0.00	+0.00
White Gold	\$1,500.00	+0.00	+0.00
Yellow Gold	\$1,500.00	+0.00	+0.00
White Gold	\$1,500.00	+0.00	+0.00
Yellow Gold	\$1,500.00	+0.00	+0.00
White Gold	\$1,500.00	+0.00	+0.00
Yellow Gold	\$1,500.00	+0.00	+0.00

INTEREST RATES			
Name	PRICE	CHG	YTD
Prime rate	5.50	+0.00	+0.00
Discount rate	5.50	+0.00	+0.00
Federal funds market rate	5.50	+0.00	+0.00
3-month bill	2.77	+0.00	+0.00
6-month bill	2.77	+0.00	+0.00
1-year bill	2.77	+0.00	+0.00
Source: The Associated Press, Bank of America			

### Present, accounted for

Presenting well in public is an important skill many of us overlook as employees, says Eve Guernsey, CEO of JP Morgan Asset Management, Americas. She's sent us a few tips:

■ **Volunteer to do it.** Very few of us relish getting up and addressing large groups. We get nervous, it's unusual, etc. Do it anyway.

■ **One or 400.** The ability to effectively present an idea to one client or 400 is the same. Be comfortable before either audience.

■ **Delivery.** For women, speak in a lower tone than normal to draw in the crowd and retain their attention.

■ **Take a course.** Public speaking can be improved. As your responsibilities in the company change, so should your presentation style, Guernsey said.

From The Associated Press

### Cents and Sensibility

#### Money tip of the day

### Resources for tax time

By CHUCK MYERS  
KRT

While more people turn to electronic tax filing, there are still some who prefer to go a more tactile route by consulting a tax guidebook. With every new tax-filing season comes a new line of books designed to aid taxpayers with the filing process and inform them of any tax code changes.

Here is a sampling of some of the new editions:

■ **How to Pay Zero Taxes, 2005**, edition, by Jeff A. Schnepfer, (\$16.95) — comprehensive guide to tax breaks, tax code changes, deductions and tax planning.

■ **"J.K. Lasser's Your Income Taxes 2005,"** (\$16.95) — features include tax rules and deductions, filing tips.

■ **"Taxes 2005 For Dummies,"** (\$16.95) — covers how to fill out forms, capital gains, deductions and planning for the new tax year.

■ **"The Ernst and Young Tax Guide 2005,"** (\$18.95) — is loaded with information on tax filing, retirement planning and education saving account contributions.



## Smoking ban review

**RI** PROVIDENCE — The Health Department probably will take another look at how it interprets a new smoking ban, a department lobbyist said.

The ban temporarily exempts bars with fewer than 10 employees. The department has been counting as employees volunteers for the Knights of Columbus who don't serve alcohol.

## Med school to upgrade

**VA** RICHMOND — Virginia Commonwealth University plans to hire more than 80 research faculty members over the next six years and spend millions on a laboratory building and other space.

Fifteen years ago, VCU ranked 34th among the country's 121 medical schools in its share of National Institutes of Health research dollars. The school's ranking slipped to 60th in 2003.

## Mistrial in nurse case

**TX** SAN ANGELO — Already delayed several times, the capital murder trial of a nurse accused of killing 10 elderly patients was over almost before it began as a judge declared a mistrial.

About 15 minutes into opening statements, prosecutor Ralph Guerrero told jurors Monday that they would hear evidence against Vickie Dawn Jackson, but that no one — not even Jackson herself — may ever be able to provide a motive.

Defense attorney Bruce Martin interrupted Guerrero, objecting that the remark improperly indicated Jackson would testify. The defendant in a criminal case is not obligated to testify.

The judge granted a new trial, now set for March 29.

"These things happen. Sometimes there are procedural or other problems and you have to start all over," Martin said.

Jackson is accused of killing 10 patients, including her third husband's grandfather, by injecting them with a drug used to temporarily halt breathing. She could get life in prison if convicted.

## Gov. to go door to door

**WV** CHARLESTON — Gov. Joe Manchin says he will go door to door this summer to encourage West Virginians to approve a \$5.5 billion bond sale.

Proceeds would be used to erase shortfalls in pension programs for teachers, State Police troopers and the judiciary. A special election is set for June 25.

## Superintendent needed

**MI** LANSING — Applications to become Michigan's next K-12 schools superintendent are due April 8.

The State Board of Education set the deadline to replace Tom Watkins, who resigned under pressure Jan. 29.

Now Jennifer Granholm doesn't have the Jennifer fire or fire the schools chief, but she wanted Watkins gone after they feuded in public over his leadership skills.

## AMERICAN ROUNDUP

### Cold slows syrup flow

**OH** CHARDON — Maple syrup producers are worried a cold snap this week will cause another delay in maple sugaring season in northeast Ohio.

Maple trees were tapped for the sugar-laden sap when temperatures rose earlier this week, but the change in the weather could delay production for at least another week. Trees need warm days to stimulate sap flow.

### Gold Rush plates end

**AK** ANCHORAGE — The Division of Motor Vehicles has stopped making Alaska's Gold Rush Centennial license plates.

The blue, white and yellow plates depicted prospector hordes who came to Alaska in the 1890s.

The plates began appearing on vehicles in 1998. Motorists needing new plates will have to settle for the standard blue-on-yellow version with the Alaska state flag.

### Chief arrested twice

**VA** STRASBURG — The police chief of neighboring Middletown was ordered held without bail on charges of driving drunk twice in one day.

Middletown Police Chief Roger Ashley has been held in the Shenandoah County Jail since his arrest. An April 11 trial was scheduled following a court appearance. Ashley was arrested the first time in his unmarked police car and a second time, five hours later,

in his personal vehicle, Strasburg Police Chief Marshall Robinson said.

Officers responded to the first arrest after Ashley's car had run into a vehicle on Virginia 11 in this northern Virginia community.

Ashley was arrested a second time in his personal vehicle, police said.

Ashley's status as chief of Middletown was to be reviewed by town leaders. "Currently we cannot make any comment on this matter until after Town Council meets," said Sgt. Phil Breedren.

Middletown, which has a population of just over 1,000, has two full-time and four part-time officers, Breedren said.

### Wettest winter ever

**NM** ALBUQUERQUE — New Mexico experienced its wettest winter in recorded history, the National Climatic Data Center in North Carolina said.

The statewide average of 4.33 inches of precipitation from December through February is the most for the state since records began to be kept in 1896. It also was the eighth-warmest winter on record, the data center said.

### Stolen truck 'hot' item

**MA** FALL RIVER — Police arrested a man who was driving a stolen vehicle that was "hot" in more ways than one: the pickup owned by Cardinal Health Nuclear Pharmacy Services contained radioactive material.

The pickup was reportedly stolen Tuesday while it was parked in Seekonk. It was later spotted by two police officers about 10 miles away in Fall River.

Fall River Sgt. Roger LaFleur said he and the other officer followed the truck casually because of its reportedly radioactive contents and slick road conditions. They took the driver into custody after the pickup stopped.

A city hazardous materials team that inspected the truck determined the five containers carrying suspected radioactive material had not been opened.

### Freedom offered for sex

**PA** CARLISLE — A police officer coerced three women into having sex with him by threatening to arrest them for prostitution if they refused, a prosecutor said.

Cpl. Kenny Johnson of the Mid-Dessex Township, Cumberland County police was on trial Monday on charges including rape, sexual assault and obstruction of justice.

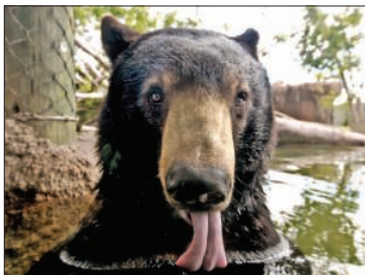
Johnson, 43, of North Middletown Township, was arrested in a sting operation in which a female prostitution officer posed as a prostitute. He was suspended without pay.

A Newville-area woman who said she was a prostitute at truck stops testified that over three years beginning in 1998, she had sex with Johnson in his police car, at the police station and at his home. Johnson told her she wouldn't get arrested when he was on duty, and had even driven her to a truck stop where she worked as a prostitute, she told the jury.



## Irish tradition

Piper Phil Cormier of North Reading, Mass., a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, performs at a St. Patrick's Day parade in Clinton, Mass.



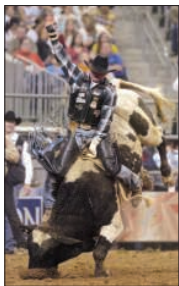
## Up close and personal

One of two Maine black bears presses up against the glass in their compound at the Palm Beach Zoo in Florida. The zoo recently held its grand opening of the new black bear exhibit. The twin bears, named Lewis and Clark, are now 4 years old and weigh about 420 pounds. They came to the zoo when their mother was killed by a car when they were about 2 months old and weighing 13 pounds.



## See how easy it is

Scott McArthur, 14, of Elkins, W.Va., prepares to snowboard down a ramp of snow at the Capitol in Charleston, W.Va. The West Virginia Ski Area Association put on a snowboarding demonstration to promote the state's five alpine ski resorts.



## He's got a good grip

Jason Legler, of Pierce, Colo., rides a bull named Cat Daddy during the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo in Houston.





**Going up in flames** An unidentified Pittsburgh, Kan., firefighter battles flames engulfing a building in downtown Fort Scott, Kan. The Pittsburgh department, located about 30 miles south of Fort Scott, was among several called in to assist in fighting the blaze, which consumed or heavily damaged at least six buildings in the city's historic district. The building shown was built in 1890.



**A five-letter word for winner** On the road to becoming a champion crossword puzzle in Stamford, Conn., during the American Crossword Puzzle Tournament. Hinman, a junior at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, is the youngest winner of the national crossword puzzle championship.



**Proud grandpa** U.S. Army Sgt. Ervin Henschel holds his 6-month-old granddaughter, Alaina Royer, for the first time at the 728th Main Support Battalion in Lock Port, Pa. Henschel had just returned from Afghanistan.



**Finding a dry seat** Fernanda Sales, of Framingham, Mass., sits on the back of a bench partially covered in snow in front of stadium seating at Butterworth Park in Framingham, Mass. following a winter storm.

## Plow drivers charged

**MA** HINGHAM — Authorities say snow plow driver Paul Gratta was cheating the state when he left his global positioning device on a snow bank to make it look like he was plowing a state highway when he was actually clearing snow from private property.

Gratta, 50, of Cohasset, owns Hull-based Hub Construction and is a longtime snow plow contractor for the state. He and an employee, Frank Eddy, 33, of Hull, were charged with larceny and fraud after a state trooper acting on a tip saw Gratta put his GPS device in a paper bag during a recent snowstorm and leave it alongside Massachusetts 3A in Hingham.

With the GPS transmitting from the snow bank, it looked to officials at the Massachusetts Highway Department's operations center like he was idling alongside the road.

But he was actually doing lucrative plow jobs for private customers, Attorney General Tom Reilly said.

## Charges for dog attack

**VA** SPOTSVYLVANIA — A prosecutor said he will seek involuntary manslaughter charges against the owner of three pit bulls that fatally mauled an 82-year-old woman.

Attorney William Neely said he will ask Spotsylvania County grand jurors next week to indict Deanna Large, 36, in the death of Dorothy Sullivan, who was killed as she walked her dog in her Parlow yard.

Sullivan and her small dog, Butons, were attacked and killed by three wandering pit bulls, all of which have since been killed.

Large admitted owning one of the dogs, but Neely said the ensuing investigation revealed that she owned all three and had been warned to keep them under better control.

## Visitors bite snake lure

**TX** SWEETWATER — Attendees of the World's Largest Rattlesnake Round-Up leave with a range of memories, the most enduring perhaps being the odorous snakes.

"It stinks, especially when they're butchering them," said Dr. Pardee, 45, of Abilene, as he looked into an area where he chipped off snakes' heads.

It's the smell of success to people such as Lynn Adams, executive director of the Sweetwater Chamber of Commerce.

Now in its 47th year, the round-up draws 30,000 people to Sweetwater with a population of about 11,500. Visitors "not only come to see the rattlesnakes but to spend money," Adams said with a smile.

The event, which continued through Monday, generates hundreds of thousands of dollars in economic impact, said Kati Bewley, a Sweetwater Jaycee.

## Pickers chanted down

**CO** COLORADO SPRINGS — Ten members of a Topeka, Kan., church famous for its demonstrations against the gay community received a rude welcome when they picketed Palmer High School.

More than 500 people turned out with banners and chants to condemn the Westboro Baptist Church demonstrators as messen-

gers of hatred, not Christian love. On a public sidewalk, Westboro church members raised their anti-gay signs. Across the street, hundreds faced them shouting "No more hate" and other chants.

## N.J. promotes kindness

**NJ** TRENTON — A kinder, gentler New Jersey? In a state where one former governor once joked that the official bird was "the middle finger," Assemblymen Jon M. Bramnick and Gordon Johnson think a few more random acts of kindness couldn't hurt.

A resolution under consideration in the state Legislature is encouraging residents to join "a campaign toward civility, kindness and respect to all."

Last year, then-Gov. James E. McGreevey declared a Random Acts of Kindness Day.

## Car sale while stumping

**IA** DES MOINES — He came to sell President Bush's plan to overhaul Social Security. Instead, U.S. Sen. Charles Grassley sold his beat-up old car.

The 1986 Olds Delta 88 sold for \$355 to an Iowa factory worker. The gray Oldsmobile, with 172,511 miles, paint peeling off the body and a Volkswagen hubcap on one wheel, was used in political advertisements last year during Grassley's re-election campaign.

The deal started last month at a town meeting, where Grassley was explaining Bush's Social Security plan. Roy Nelson, 41, was there with his four daughters. One of them stood up and asked him about the car because she was turning 16 within a month.

## Cheaper gas woes

**NE** GRAND ISLAND — Some customers may have thought it was simple justice. Alas, it was technology that prevented a gas station's sign from displaying any price \$2 or higher.

Byron Wheeler, who owns a Byco gas station, said he kept prices below the \$2 mark for five days last week because the station's electronic sign couldn't display a "2" in the decimal position.

Wheeler said the company is upgrading the sign, which has been in place at the station's convenience store since the business opened in 1991. But the sign can be brought up to speed, Wheeler is displaying only the time and temperature.

## Observation deck coming

**NY** NEW YORK — A 70-story-high observation deck at Rockefeller Center will reopen this fall after a \$75 million renovation, the complex's co-owner said.

The deck, atop 30 Rockefeller Center, has been closed since 1986, when the Rainbow Room restaurant expanded into its space. It is expected to draw about two million visitors a year, according to Tishman Speyer Properties, co-owners of Rockefeller Center.

At 850 feet above street level, it will be the city's second-highest observatory (the highest is atop the Empire State Building, which is about 200 feet higher). The observation deck atop the World Trade Center was the city's highest until the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

Stories and photos from wire services



## OPINION

## Jackson's approach to trial is out of this world

BY LEONARD PITTS JR.

The Miami Herald

I was in Michael Jackson's bedroom once.

This was long enough ago that he still had brown skin and God's intended nose. Contrary to the allegations that have surfaced in his child molestation trial, Jackson offered me neither "Jesus Juice" nor pornography. I remember only a rattle can and shelves full of movie memorabilia, including Disney, the Three Stooges and a likeness of Jackson himself as the scarecrow from "The Wiz." His room was the last stop on a tour of the family home in the L.A. suburb of Encino following an interview.

To get inside the Jackson compound, you spoke your name into an electronic box and a heavy black gate swung ponderously open. You drove down a long driveway past a pen where fearsome guard dogs were caged. "Act like you're going to attack me," Jackson said as he pointed them out to me. I obediently lifted a fist and took a step in his direction only to become a mannequin as the dogs lurched themselves against the fence, barking and slavering. As I was concentrating on bladder control, Jackson doubled over, laughing.

He was a free creature, insubstantial as smoke, who slouched about the house as if bored of existence. The life he described in that whisper-soft voice of his was lonely, isolated and sad. He complained of being unable to go beyond the gates for fear of being mobbed. Still, he confided, he

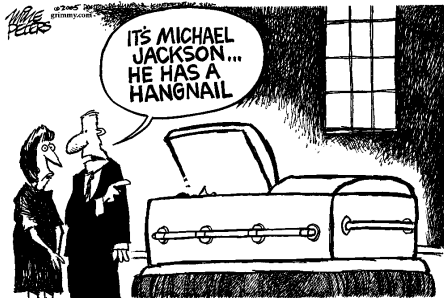
slipped out sometimes late at night and walked the streets, looking for someone to talk to. I was never sure about that story until years later when a man I knew told me how he'd been driving near the Jackson home one night when you should be asleep but Michael, walking alone.

I left the Jackson home feeling vaguely sorry for the family's most famous son, feeling that there was a guy who was not of us, a pliable man who desperately needed a guide to instruct him in how things are done here on planet Earth.

It's a feeling that returned in force last Thursday when I saw him arrive at court for his trial wearing pajama bottoms.

Jackson, for the three of you who missed it, turned up AWOL when testimony was set to resume. The singer's attorneys explained that Jackson, suffering severe back pain, had been taken to the hospital earlier that morning. An infuriated Judge Rodney Melville threatened to revoke the singer's \$3 million bail and slap him in jail. He gave Jackson an hour to get his corpse to court. The singer, disheveled, hobbling in apparent pain and wearing his pajamas, showed up an hour and three minutes late.

Now work with me here. You're Michael Jackson. You're on trial on charges that could send you away for 20 years. You have already hacked off the judge by showing up late for an earlier court appearance, dancing on top of an SUV, and forcing jury selection to be held up for a week while you are hospitalized with the flu. From here on out, aren't you going to make every effort not to tee the



man off any more? Yes, you would. Me too. I don't care if my back aches, if I have to lean on a cane, if I have to be rolled in a chair, if I have to be carried by my bodyguard, if I have to be wheeled into court on a gurney, popping painkillers like M&Ms, my body would be present and accounted for when the session was gavelled to order.

That's how we ordinary humans do things on Planet Earth. But that's a place Jackson has not lived for a very long time. He has been working since he was 5, famous since

he was 11, sequestered behind gates since shortly after that.

Moreover, he has spent his life surrounded by flunkies who follow his orders, shape his environment to his tastes and say yes a lot. I doubt he can even remember the last time someone could tell him what to do. So what does he know about having to be governed by someone else's orders? What does he know about Earth? Nothing, that's what.

But if he's not very careful, Jackson will soon have 20 years to learn.

## When the going gets tough, make room for Daddy

BY ALFRED LUBRANO

The Philadelphia Inquirer

Oh, it's tender, really. Government big shots suddenly decide to ditch fabulous careers because, darn it all, they've missed too many of little Billy's school plays.

They claim to anyone who'll listen: "I'm leaving to spend more time with my family."

It's the beautiful American Lie, perfect for its homely sentiment and apparent courage.

Embattled Federal Communications Commission Chairman Michael Powell needs to see more of his family, and will begin hanging with them this week.

There are others: former embattled CIA Director George Tenet, former embattled Environmental Protection Agency head Christie Whitman, former embattled FBI Director Louis Freeh, and many, many more.

When the going gets tough, the tough go home.

You would think that the American family would be in better shape than it is, given all the people who drop out of jobs that feature limos and White House access just to play Boggle on a Wednesday night with Junior. Never mind that in many cases Junior is now 45.

No one just comes out and says, "I've been coleslaw-shredded and marginalized. Colleagues wish me dead, and the president is setting my desk on fire."

Now, "quitting for the family" can be enshrined with other classic mendacities of

our culture, like "No, that doesn't make you look fat" and "It's not up to me."

Truth is, Powell is pilloried by both the left and the right, and leaving seems smart. Whitman was being assailed by the Bush administration for, it appears, not dismantling the environment fast enough, and Freeh was taking hits for FBI missteps.

And by coyly declaring that he would step down from running the largest spy network in Earth history to "learn how to instant-message" his son's friends, Tenet avoided revisiting his "slam-dunk" guarantee that Iraq was lousy with humanity-encelching bombs.

Some of the oddest people play the family card, such as Bernard Kerik, the former New York City po-

lice commissioner who'd been nominated for secretary of homeland security. He withdrew from consideration for the post, then quickly departed the Rudy Giuliani-run consulting firm at which he worked, to — here comes a surprise — spend more time with his peeps.

Funny, he didn't mention the media's hounding him about his alleged connections to mobbed-up people and about the extramarital affairs he was reportedly conducting with two women.

Which family, by the way, was he going to be spending more time with?

To complete the hypocrisy, some of these family-missing folks get home, invest a few nights reuniting with the cat, then speed out of the house faster than you can say, "Wash it your turn to take the kids to soccer practice, Mr. Secretary?"

After leaving the FBI, Freeh signed on as a senior executive at MBNA Corp., the giant Wilmington, Del.-based credit-card

issuer. Freeh is responsible for 26,000 people in four countries, a burden that might cut into one or two pizza nights with his six sons.

John Danforth quit as U.S. ambassador to the United Nations to spend more days with his wife, then immediately rejoined his old law firm, announcing that he wouldn't rule out public service.

People should come up with more honest — or at least original — things to say about quitting.

I'm leaving my job to:

- order hookers and room service for seven weeks until the pain this job inflicted ebbs;
- join the Carmelite nuns (I hear they're nice);
- learn how to properly start a fire the Boy Scout way; and
- cash in on my public service by pulling down more money than God and Oprah.



Freeh



Whitman

## Mallard Fillmore

BY BRUCE TINSLEY



# Horoscope

In his efforts to bring Christianity to the Irish people, St. Patrick, for whom this day is celebrated, was known to have incorporated local rituals into his teachings. One result is the Celtic cross, Patrick's melding of the sun, exalted by the Irish, and the Christian cross. In keeping with the holiday, find innovative and familiar ways to communicate.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 17).** You turn into a high-powered magnet, attracting just what you need. The trick is deciding that you need beauty, money, things and situations in your life! Career shifts this spring help facilitate personal changes. Your family finally accepts an aspect of you in June. Aries and Taurus give you adventure, but romance with a sweet Scorpio intoxicates.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** Once you start a project, dynamic folks start to join. Keeping these folks interested requires that you give them their "props" for what they add to the mix. Become a compliment-spewing machine.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** Release — even if it means letting out a blood-curdling primal scream! Bottled-up energy is eventually detrimental. Too much time in a windowless room is bad for your soul. Find your patch of open sky to stretch out under.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** A rare encounter is featured. You're face to face with the qualities you appreciate but seldom experience: stillness, tranquility, surrender. Are you strong enough to give in? There's nothing to lose but your own baggage.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** Something you were unable to accomplish yesterday is now quite doable. All you need is the guts to try again. With more than your usual exuberance, you can convince a VIP to join your team.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** You're like a cat playing with string. You consciously know that nothing will

come of the activity. This string is no match for you and will never be conquered or killed in the end. But isn't the exercise fun?

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** Return to your childhood fantasy. It's

more plausible than ever now. In fact, all impossible scenarios are possible today, for no other reason than this: You are choosing to see problems as opportunities.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** The demands that are made of you are tedious, mental and, quite frankly, beneath you. (You're not a robot!) However, it's your attitude that can transform a boring task into a Zen exercise.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** When you're with that person who makes your heart beat faster, the whole world looks different. There's a magical cast to the scene, as if you're seeing things through colored glass under a smiling sun.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** Confidence will attract money to you — or at least attract people who have money. You have the guts to greet anyone as though you know that you're someone worth knowing and knowing well.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** Notions once deemed unsafe or impractical now get another look. You're not as concerned about security as you once were, which makes it possible to explore new business options. Maybe you'll dream up an idea for a movie.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** The situation calls for you to get along with everybody. Everybody. Even the person you have nothing in common with, aside from the fact that you are both carbon-based life forms.

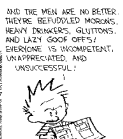
**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** You'll run into the vain, gluttonous and misguided. The natural tendency is to consider yourself superior, but this gets you nowhere. Instead, use the scenario as an opportunity for you to practice humility.

Creators Syndicate

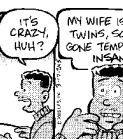
## Holdity Mathis



## Calvin and Hobbes



## Jump Start



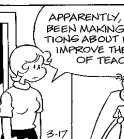
## Zits



## Cathy



## Hi and Lois



## Beetle Bailey



## Red Rover



## Better or Worse



## Peanuts





Fox trot



B.C.



Baby Bites



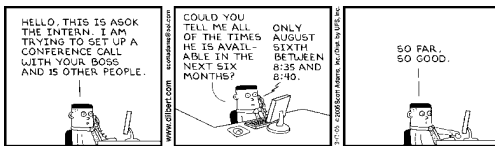
Spider Man



Blondie



Dilbert



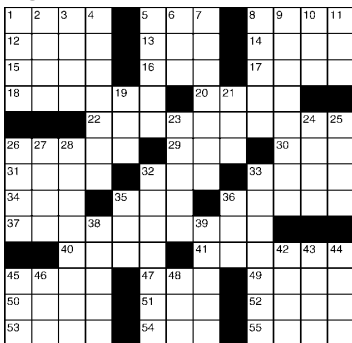
Hagar



Garfield



## Eugene Sheffer Crossword



## Across

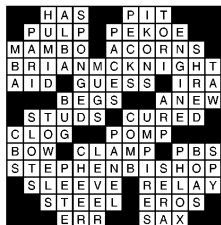
- 1 Detail, for short  
5 8-Across, for one  
8 Nora's pet  
12 Argonauts' patron  
13 Mess up  
14 Transaction  
15 On  
16 Speedwagon letters  
17 Genie's hideout  
18 Craving  
20 "Yeah, right!"  
22 Surprised  
26 Knee counterpart  
29 Irritate  
30 Director Howard  
31 It's good  
32 For a breather  
32 Train component  
33 Showroom sample

## Down

- 1 Herring's kin  
2 Fountain of music  
3 Piccadilly statue  
4 House of representatives?  
5 "10" star  
6 Refrainable rock  
7 Bad pun  
8 Extemporize  
9 Mariner  
10 Highland chapeau  
11 Mont Blanc, e.g.  
19 Like 6-Down  
21 Kenny G's instrument  
23 "Dynasty" actress  
24 "It's Impossible" singer

- 25 Recognize  
26 Early birds?  
27 Dryer collection  
28 Toronto team  
32 Sled  
33 Bureau  
35 Doctrine  
36 Big  
38 Old hat  
39 Fix firmly  
42 Siamese  
43 Parliamentary  
44 Longings  
45 "I — Camera"  
46 You can't stand to have one  
48 Guitar's kin

## Answer to Previous Puzzle



3-17

## CRYPTOQUIP

P XNHPNON PV QLYNLTN  
ANYLHPQENQ S JLLV, EN  
QELFHA BNC PT CJLFXHN

V LJ NSONQAJLRRPTB.  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF AN L.A. BASEBALL PRO HAS A KNACK FOR SKETCHING PICTURES, IS HE AN ARTFUL DODGER?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: J equals R

# Son lets girlfriend walk on him

**Dear Abby:** My 25-year-old son, "Mitch," and his live-in girlfriend, "Mimi," just became engaged, and I'm really worried. They met in college, where Mimi admits she went to "get her MRS."

When Mitch took a job in another state and she started working on his graduate degree, Mimi tagged along. At first she had her own apartment. But since she "couldn't afford" a car, Mitch drove her to and from work every day. Then she got a job where he worked, and they began having lunch together every day to the exclusion of co-workers.

Two years later, Mimi still has no car of her own in a state where cars are a necessity. In addition, she's "so tired" after her "long" 7½-hour day that she "just can't manage to cook," so they either go out or Mitch does the cooking, too.

Abby, my son is lean, outgoing,

into sports and martial arts. Mimi is obese and lethargic. She constantly complains about her aches and pains and other people. She has no hobbies and spends every night watching television.

I'm afraid this is somehow my fault. Mitch's mother was "high maintenance." I modeled caretaking for him in his early years when she and I were still married, but never to this extent. I'm desperate to have a father-son talk about the path Mitch seems to be heading down, but I also know I risk alienating him, maybe permanently. Should I keep my mouth shut, or what?

**Dear Panicked Pop:** Talk to your son, but make absolutely sure that when you do, it is not perceived as an attack on his fiancée. Instead, discuss the mistakes you made during your marriage to Mitch's mother,

which fostered her dependence on you — and which Mitch seems to be mirroring with Mimi. However, do it with a light touch, and with none of the contempt for her that you have displayed in your letter — or it could, indeed, negatively affect your relationship with your son.

## Confidential to My Irish Readers:

**An Irish prayer:** Take time to think, It is the source of power. Take time to play, It is the secret of perpetual youth. Take time to read, It is the foundation of wisdom.

Take time to be friendly, It is the road to happiness. Take time to love and be loved, It is the privilege of the gods.

Take time to share, Life is too short to be selfish. Take time to laugh, Laughter is the music of the soul.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69410, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can email to Abby on the Internet at <http://www.uepress.com/dearabby>. Universal Press Syndicate

## Dear Abby



# Allow wife's indirect input on mom

**Dear Annie:** My wife has a very good relationship with my mother.

Mom always has valued my wife's opinion and often asks her for advice.

Mom recently entered a nursing home, and there are decisions that must be made regarding her care and future. The problem is that my siblings feel my wife has no place in these discussions, including giving me her opinion. I've made it clear that my wife's place is to help me with her advice during these difficult times.

I do not want to create a rift, but I value my wife's views, and I feel that Mom would want her involved, given their close relationship.

I would like to think this is what marriage is all about — to act as a team in good times as well as bad. Am I on the right track here?

— Mom's Son

**Dear Son:** Yes and No. The

## Annie's Mailbox



decisions about your mother's care should be made by her and her children, together.

If Mom wants your wife involved, she should say so to your siblings. If she is incapable of expressing this desire, your wife should not involve herself directly.

However, your siblings should not be telling you whose support and advice you can seek on your own.

**Dear Annie:** My wife and I, along with my three young children, just moved back to my home state. We have not yet found a home, so we are staying with my parents. My father is the problem.

Dad always has been a gruff, critical personality. On several occasions, he has yelled at my children for flimsy reasons, like not picking up the phone before the third ring, leaving the remote

control on the floor and not cleaning the hair out of the shower. All three of them are scared to be in a room alone with him. Dad opened his home to us, and I don't feel it's my place to criticize his behavior.

**Bark Is Worse Than His Bite** in The Southeast USA

**Dear Bark:** Your father is unaccustomed to your presence, and he expects a certain amount of order in his home. There's no reason your children can't pick up the phone sooner, return the remote to its proper place and clean the hair out of the shower. However, the yelling is unnecessary.

Tell Dad he frightens the children when he raises his voice, and they'll do their best to cooperate. Then tell your children to be respectful of Grandpa, and remind them that he isn't used to having children underfoot.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to [anniemailbox@comcast.net](mailto:anniemailbox@comcast.net), or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045.

Creators Syndicate

# JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

ILETT

©2005 Tribune Media Services, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

YOOTS

FLYTAL

NOISOP

www.jumble.com

Ans:     AT THE

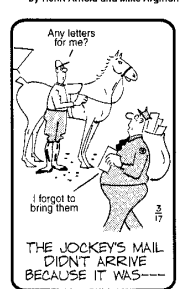
(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: GORGE FOCUS DECENT RAGLAN

Answer: Why the robbers headed for the seashore — THE COAST WAS "CLEAR"

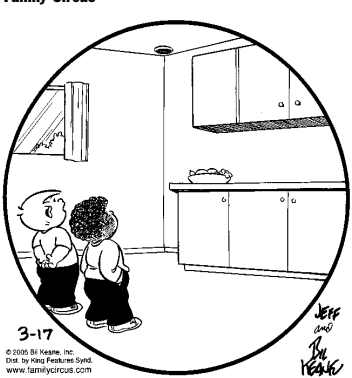
## THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Mike Argrison



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

## Family Circus



3-17

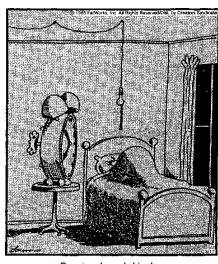
©2005 Bill Ward, Inc. One by New Features Synd. www.familycircus.com



## Dennis the Menace



## The Far Side



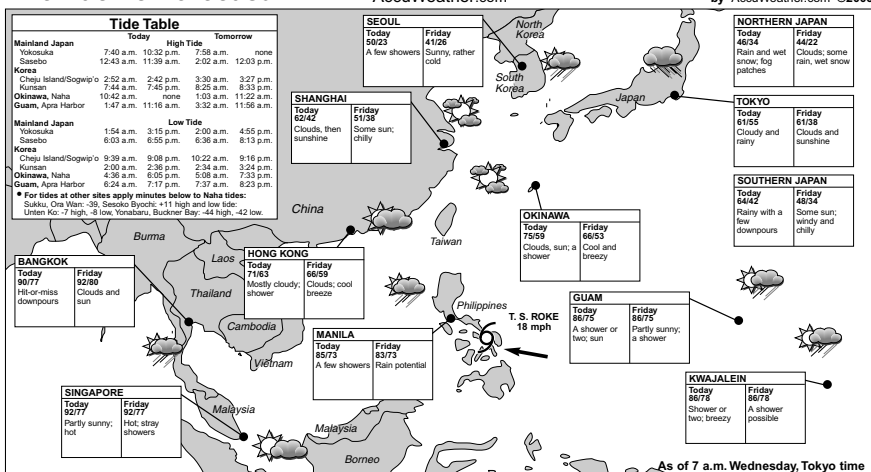
## Non Sequitur



## The Pacific Forecast

AccuWeather.com

Forecasts and graphics, provided by AccuWeather.com ©2005



## Extended Forecasts

## TOKYO

Saturday: Mostly sunny, high 48, low 39.  
 Sunday: Partly sunny, high 53, low 42.

## KADENA

Saturday: Partly sunny, high 45, low 36.  
 Sunday: Partly sunny, high 71, low 59.

## SEoul

Saturday: Sunny, high 45, low 30.  
 Sunday: Mostly sunny, high 50, low 35.

## MANILA

Saturday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 88, low 73.  
 Sunday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 90, low 75.

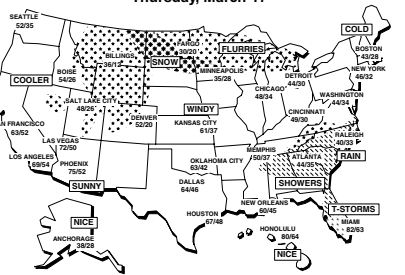
## HAGATNA

Saturday: Mostly sunny, high 88, low 77.  
 Sunday: Partly sunny, high 87, low 77.

## Tuesday's USA Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Albuquerque	35/22	Los Angeles	79/50
Amarillo	31/28	Little Rock	52/37
Anchorage	38/28	Louisville	48/31
Asheville	50/34	Miami	83/71
Baltimore	48/28	Milwaukee	35/25
Birmingham	62/45	Nashville	54/35
Bismarck	31/16	New York	44/32
Boise	60/34	Omaha	53/25
Boston	45/28	Orlando	80/64
Brownsville	80/61	Philadelphia	47/30
Buffalo	33/22	Phoenix	71/46
Burlington	38/23	Pittsburgh	40/24
Charleston, SC	62/49	Portland, OR	66/38
Charlotte	57/38	Portland, ME	44/28
Cleveland	38/25	Salt Lake City	47/29
Columbus, OH	48/26	St. Louis	47/30
Dallas	26/16	San Antonio	55/43
El Paso	60/30	San Diego	75/48
Hartford	44/24	San Juan	80/62
Helsinki	40/25	Tampa	80/66
Indianapolis	44/28	Tulsa	49/31
Jacksonville	61/57	Washington, DC	50/32
Kansas City	51/29	Wichita	48/31

## Thursday, March 17



## U.S. Extended Forecast

A potent storm will travel across the northern Rockies and central Plains Thursday and cold air will pour into the region upon the storm's passage. Snow showers will be common across Montana, the Dakotas, Wyoming and Nebraska. Meanwhile, it will be a cloudy and cool day in the Southeast. Some rain will affect the Carolinas and Georgia, with snow in the higher elevations of the southern Appalachians. Showers and thunderstorms will wet parts of Florida. High pressure will keep the Northeast dry and chilly. Snow will make its way into the Midwest and Great Lakes Friday and Saturday. A storm may bring some rain to central and Southern California. Generally tranquil weather will be found in New England.

## Thursday's Pacific Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Bangkok	90/77	Iwakuni	64/43
Beijing	46/27	Kadena AB	75/59
Camp Casey	50/24	Kunsan AB	53/29
Christchurch	69/51	Kwajalein	86/78
Diego Garcia	88/78	Manila	85/73
Hagatna	88/75	Mawaba AB	55/43
Hanoi	77/66	Osan	52/25
Hong Kong	71/63	Perth	80/56
Honolulu	80/64	Pusan	58/36

## Thursday's World Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Acapulco	86/73	Budapest	60/48	Kabul	62/41
Athens	64/53	Buenos Aires	84/66	Kew	36/36
Auckland	69/58	Cairo	76/47	Kuwait	75/53
Baghdad	73/46	Cancun	78/63	London	64/51
Barbados	90/71	Cape Town	87/64	Madrid	69/46
Barcelona	61/49	Geneva	61/39	Mexico City	70/43
Berlin	55/43	Istanbul	56/43	Montreal	34/20
Bermuda	64/56	Jerusalem	66/46	Mogadishu	90/75
Brussels	63/48	Johannesburg	72/54	Moscow	23/13
				Warsaw	53/47



# Sell it.....Free!

Advertise your car, truck, motorcycle, boat or bicycle in Singapore free!

No charges! On us!

Up to 7 lines of text in 21 days - free!

Call Classified today at 2952376

or e-mail us at classified@staris.com.sg

Individuals only - no dealers!

Your HomeTown Newspaper  
**STARS AND STRIPES**  
[www.staris.com.sg](http://www.staris.com.sg)







Furniture	510	Jobs Offered	630	820	820	820	1020
Knottens, Chinas, Kitchen furniture for sale - Board call poster moveover to 510. Board Call Bakers Rack with stainless steel top for \$129.	Okieva - Unexpected! PCS! Wooden Entertainment Center. Fits up to around a 30" TV. Year old, Great Condition. Paid \$1600, now \$799. 510/510				Peters - Hello, my name is Sherri. I'm a bunny and I'm free for a good home. Easter is almost here. And guess what? I'm super tame. Call 510/510	Spurr, Chinas - Brand New Oceanic 2000 200 Air stock in the water. Comes with everything you need to get started in the water. comes with everything you need to get started in the water. comes with everything you need to get started in the water.	Kedens - 100 VHS tapes made \$100.00. Call Dennis 510/510

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

**Toys 945**

Courtesy, Okanawa • Play before 5 PM  
JOHN DEER (GATOR Electric Truck) (25 & 50MPH) and remote. New listing. \$149.95. Reschable. Call: 622-5555. 1000-1500. CDO mommies@theartcenter.com  
okanawa.com • 4 pictures

**Sporting Goods 980**

Puerto • Nautilus AP500 stationery bicycle from workout gym. Paid \$250, asking \$150. Call: 622-6666. 2000-2500

**Meets A New Standard**

Kadena, Okanawa • Total Fitness Package Includes: Total Pro-Form GPS (readable with indoor and heart rate maps. Weider 100lb bench with 100lb attachment. 100lb: 120 lbs of free weights. 100lb: 100lb of free weights. 100lb of 400 lbs takes it all Call Steve at 622-5555. 1000-1500

**estripes.osd.mil**

Okmanawa • I have 2 superbantons for sale. Ropcut, 72", great condition. Includes saddle, stirrups, asking \$4400.00. Nectar 68" 16" blue and white design, excellent condition. Includes saddle, stirrups, asking \$4400.00. Both have 100lb of 400 lbs takes it all. Call Steve at 622-5555. 1000-1500

**STARSTRIPES**

Puerto • Nautilus AP500 stationery bicycle from workout gym. Paid \$250, asking \$150. Call: 622-6666. 2000-2500

# Air Force players want a lift from Guam tournament

BY DAVE ORNAUER

Stars and Stripes

ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam — Damien Seals would like his host Andersen Bombers A squad to keep the 2005 March Madness tournament title home on Guam.

But even more, Seals hopes he can parlay his March Madness experience into a spot in this summer's All-Air Force basketball try-out camp. "This gives you a plat-

form to showcase your talent," said the 30-year-old staff sergeant from Long Beach, Calif.

When not working for Andersen's 36th Civil Engineering Squadron, Seals wears Bombers red and white and hopes he someday can don Air Force blue and perhaps be part of an All-Armed Forces championship team.

"It's the aura of being at the top. You're representing the elite of your service," Seals said.

March Madness is not an official qualifier for the June 29-July 16 All-Air Force tryout camp at Charleston Air Force Base, S.C., but it is an annual Pacificwide tournament with traveling open, post- and base-level teams.

Ramon Moss is a two-time All-Air Force forward playing in this week's March Madness for Korea's Camp Humphreys Bulldogs. He compared March Madness to playing in an All-Armed Forces championship in that "you either bring your game or sit on

the bench. You might not even be part of the team if you don't bring your game."

Doing well in March Madness, the Osan Pacificwide holiday tournament in December or the Martin Luther King tournament in January on Okinawa, "lets you know where you stand... sends a message to watch out for this player from Osan or whichever base," Moss said.

Unlike the Air Force, which selects tryout camp prospects via re-

sumé, the Marine Corps holds regional qualifying tournaments on the East and West coasts and on Okinawa for Pacific-based teams.

But the open tournaments still can help players build a case for selection, said two-time All-Marine center Taurice McMillan, because of "the level of competition, the notoriety of the tournament, simply because of how big it is and how exposed."

E-mail Dave Ornauer at: [ornau01@stpsites.osd.mil](mailto:ornau01@stpsites.osd.mil)

## March Madness scoreboard

Andersen Air Force Base, Guam	
Men's Pool A	
Andersen Air Force Base A, Guam	3-0
Ace Hardware, Guam	2-0
Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan	0-1
Naval Station, Guam	0-2
Gamestoppers, Guam	0-2
Tuesday's scores	
Men's Pool B	
Ace Hardware 86, Naval Station 79	
Andersen A 61, Gamestoppers 61	
Men's Pool C	
Spotlight, Okinawa	2-0
Andersen Air Force Base B, Guam	2-1
KFC Dragons, Guam	1-1
USF Frank Cable, Guam	0-2
Camp Fuji, Japan	0-2
Tuesday's scores	
Andersen B 81, USF Frank Cable 68	
KFC Dragons 74, Camp Fuji 67	
Spotlight 90, USF Frank Cable 66	
Men's Pool C	
Camp Humphreys, South Korea	2-0
Team Guam	1-1
Heat, Okinawa	1-1
Budweiser, Guam	0-2
Tuesday's scores	
Camp Humphreys 100, Team Guam 88	
Heat 2, Budweiser 0, forfeit	
Women's Pool	
Osan Air Base, South Korea	2-0
Kunsan Air Base, South Korea	2-1
Camp Humphreys, South Korea	2-1
Bud Light, Guam	0-1
Andersen Air Force Base, Guam	0-3
Tuesday's scores	
Osan 68, Kunsan 59	
Camp Humphreys 70, Andersen 68	
Kunsan 87, Andersen 45	

## HOW TO GET AWAY WITH A GREAT DEAL.

**VOLVO**  
for life



BUY YOUR NEW EUROPEAN CAR THE SMART WAY  
— AND ENJOY ALL THE SAVINGS AND UNIQUE  
REWARDS OF VOLVO'S MILITARY SALES PROGRAM.  
FOR A VERY SPECIAL OFFER ON YOUR FAVORITE  
VOLVO (SUCH AS THE INNOVATIVE NEW VOLVO S40),  
SEE YOUR NEAREST SALES AGENT NOW OR VISIT  
[WWW.VOLVOCARS.COM/MILITARYSALES](http://WWW.VOLVOCARS.COM/MILITARYSALES)

- ★ SPECIAL FACTORY PRICING.
- ★ PROFESSIONAL ASSISTANCE WITH ALL FORMALITIES.
- ★ FOUR-YEAR WARRANTY ALSO OUTSIDE THE U.S.
- ★ U.S. SPECIFICATIONS.
- ★ NO IMPORT DUTY WITH PCS ORDERS, FOR US MILITARY PERSONNEL TAKING DELIVERY OVERSEAS.
- ★ FREE HOME SHIPMENT, MARINE INSURANCE AND CUSTOMS CLEARANCE INCLUDED.
- ★ OPTION OF VIP FACTORY DELIVERY — AND MORE.

**VOLVO CARS MILITARY SALES. IT'S A GREAT DEAL.**

## MILITEC-1 SYNTHETIC WEAPONS LUBRICANT

### A Force Multiplier

The New Standard for  
Desert Warfare

- Weapons do not jam
- Weapons clean up with a dry rag
- Dry impregnated lubrication™

### Attention Troops

- Go to [www.militec.com](http://www.militec.com) and click for your FREE supply of MILITEC-1.
- Or call us Collect for your FREE supply of MILITEC-1 at (301) 893-3910.
- Unlimited supply of MILITEC-1 for our Troops. Free shipping, too!

Militec, Inc.  
11828 Pika Drive  
Waldorf, Maryland 20602  
(877) 222-5512  
© 2005 Militec, Inc.

NSNs:

1 oz, case of 100, 9150-01-415-9112  
4 oz, case of 12, 9150-01-415-9114





# Cleveland cuts E Brown

## Redskins reportedly pursuing first pick of 2000 draft

The Associated Press

Cleveland released defensive end Courtney Brown on Monday, yet another former first-round pick who failed to make it with the team.

Washington Redskins coach Joe Gibbs wasted no time pursuing Brown. Within hours of his release, Gibbs flew to Cleveland with defensive line coach Greg Blache and had dinner with Brown and Brown's wife Monday night, an official within the league told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

The official said Brown was expected to visit Redskins Park earlier this week.

Brown, the first overall choice in the 2000 draft, was cut by Cleveland because he would not renegotiate his contract. He would have been due a \$2.5 million roster bonus Tuesday. Browns General Manager Phil Savage said he still hoped the team could re-sign the oft-injured defensive end.

But Brown quickly drew interest from other teams, including the Redskins. Washington is in need of a pass-rushing end, having relied heavily on linebackers and cornerbacks for many of their sacks last season.

Brown was also a teammate at Penn State with Redskins linebacker LaVar Arrington, the No. 1 overall pick in 2000. If Washington signs Brown, the team would have the top three picks from that



**draft: Brown, Arrington and tackle Chris Samuels.**

Brown hasn't played a full season since his rookie year. He has missed 33 games with injuries over the past four seasons, including the final 14 games last year, after tearing a ligament in his foot.

Without Brown, the first three No. 1 picks that Cleveland took after it returned to the league in 1999 are gone. Brown joins quarterback Tim Couch, the first overall pick in 1999, and defensive tackle Gerard Warren, No. 3 overall in 2001, as ex-Browns. Couch was released last June and Warren was traded to Denver on March 2 for a fourth-round pick.

The team also has given running back William Green, its first-round pick in 2002, permission to seek a trade.

In addition, letting Brown go Monday, Cleveland signed veteran defensive lineman Jason Fisk.

Cincinnati made a similar move, signing defensive tackle Bryan Robinson, who played for Chicago the past six seasons.

The Oakland Raiders re-signed free agent defensive end Bobby Hamilton to a \$6 million, three-year contract, keeping a key member of their revamped defense for last season.

The 33-year-old Hamilton,

known as a talented run-stopper, was the most consistent player on the Raiders' rebuilt defense front last season. He started 15 games last season and played in all 16 for the Raiders (5-11), recording 57 tackles — 36 solo — a sack and three pass deflections.

The Vikings welcomed former Buc QB Brad Johnson for a workout, not that they are in the market for a backup to Daunte Culpepper after Gus Ferrette agreed to sign with Miami.

Ferrette, who played behind Culpepper for the past two seasons, joined former Vikings offensive coordinator Scott Lineham with the Dolphins, according to Minnesota vice president for football operations Rob Brzezinski.

The New York Giants cut defensive linemen Norman Hand and Keith Washington, both starters last season, Miami cut fullback Rob Krumpholtz and Buffalo released Pierson Folea after the backup safety rejected the team's offer to restructure his contract.

In developments Tuesday:

■ Minnesota agreed to terms on a one-year contract with free agent receiver Travis Taylor, who was a disappointment in five seasons in Baltimore.

■ Free agent tight end Anthony Bryant signed a five-year contract with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, a move coach Jon Gruden is counting on to help the club's inconsistent running game.

■ Miami signed free agent offensive tackle Stockar McDougle



**Courtney Brown has missed 33 games with injuries over the past four seasons, including 14 last season with a foot injury.**

to a one-year deal, shoring up one of the team's biggest weaknesses.

■ Pro Bowl left tackle Orlando Pace wrapped up a two-day visit with the Houston Texans, the first step of a process that could eventually lead to a trade with the St. Louis Rams.

St. Louis faces a Wednesday afternoon deadline to re-sign Pace. After that, under NFL rules the Rams wouldn't be allowed to strike a deal with him until July 15.

In other news, the first NFL-regular-season game outside the United States is expected to take place Oct. 2, when the Arizona Cardinals face San Francisco in Mexico City.

The game is expected to be a Sunday night contest televised by ESPN. It would be a home game for the Cardinals, who rarely sell out their stadium but could draw 100,000 or more in Mexico City.

"We're working on it but it's not finalized yet," NFL spokesman Greg Aiello said Tuesday.

# Georgia Tech's Gailey OK after heart attack

The Associated Press

ATLANTA — It was a normal morning for Chan Gailey. The Georgia Tech football coach was running around a racquetball court, getting in a little exercise before going down to work.

Suddenly, he felt a tightening in his chest.

Then, a pain surged through his left arm.

He was having a heart attack.

Gailey was rushed to the hospital Monday, where doctors performed a balloon angioplasty to open an artery that was totally blocked.

He was resting comfortably and expected to make a full recovery.

"It was tough and got a little while, it really was," athletic director Dave Braine said. "We heard it was serious, so everybody said a prayer and hoped he was going to be fine, and he is. His family — his wife and his two sons — are there with him, and he's doing well."

Gailey, who turned 53 in January, began feeling ill during his usual morning workout on a racquetball court at the campus recreation center.

"He does it religiously every morning, so it isn't like he's not trying to take care of himself," Braine said.

Braine said the angioplasty was needed to clear an artery that was 100 percent blocked. He wasn't aware of the coach having any heart problems.

"He'll be in hospital probably three or four days, but they do expect a complete recovery," Braine said. "We expect him to be back here within a few weeks."

The Yellow Jackets were scheduled to practice Tuesday, Friday and Saturday, then take next week off for spring break.

## Kansas State retains basketball coach

MANHATTAN, Kan. — Jim Woodbridge will be back on the Kansas State sideline next season after coaching the men's basketball team to its first winning season in six years.

Woodbridge, 68-77 in five seasons at Kansas State, signed a two-year contract last year.

Kansas State went 17-12 (6-10 Big 12) this season, but the Wildcats weren't invited to the NCAA tournament or the NIT.

"After a thorough review of our men's basketball program, it was clear that there are good things happening," athletic director Tim Weiser said in a statement.

## Pac-10 to use instant replay

LOS ANGELES — The Pacific-10 will use instant replay in football next season, utilizing a system similar to one the Big Ten used last year. A replay official located in the press box will make the replay decision rather than the referee on the field. Coaches will not be allowed to challenge calls.

## NASCAR suspends three crew chiefs

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — NASCAR on Tuesday suspended the crew chief for Jimmie Johnson, Kyle Busch and Kevin Harvick in a swift crackdown on cheating committed at Las Vegas Motor Speedway.

Todd Berrier was suspended for four weeks and fined \$25,000 for rigging Harvick's fuel tank to appear full when it actually wasn't during qualifying.

Chad Knaus was suspended for two weeks and fined \$35,000 when Johnson's race-winning car failed to meet the minimum height requirement in Sunday's post-race inspection.

Alan Gustafson was suspended two weeks and fined \$25,000 because Busch's runner-up

car was too high in the post-race inspection.

In addition to the suspensions, the drivers were also docked 25 points. Rick Hendrick, the car owner for Johnson and Busch, was docked 50 points — 25 for each infraction. Rick Childress, the car owner for Harvick, was docked 25 points.

The penalty dock Johnson the series points lead, which he earned following his victory Sunday in Las Vegas.

Hendrick said he does not agree "with the severity of NASCAR's stance" and will appeal the penalties against him and his team.

## Davenport wins; Roddick, Agassi advance

INDIAN WELLS, Calif. — Overcoming gusty winds that sent sand swirling and left a layer of grit on the court Monday, Lindsay Davenport beat Meghann Shaughnessy 6-2, 2-6, 6-2 in the Pacific Life Open.

When the wind died down a bit later in the afternoon, it was Andy Roddick who breezed. He needed only 45 minutes for a 6-1, 6-2 victory over Jiri Novak.

Andre Agassi also rolled into the fourth round, beating Andre Pavel 6-3, 6-4.

## Sorlie maintains lead in Iditarod

UNALASKA, Alaska — Norwegian Robert Sorlie charged out of the coastal village of Kotzebue more than three hours ahead of his closest pursuers with just a few checkpoints left in the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race.

The next stop is Elim, 48 miles away, and then just three checkpoints and 123 miles remain before the finish line at Nome.

Sorlie, trying to win his second Iditarod in three tries, left Kotzebue on Monday evening after a 10-minute stop. Three-time Iditarod King of Denali Park headed out 3 hours, 17 minutes later, 10 minutes ahead of veteran John Baker of Kotzebue.

# Callahan's deposition might hurt Williams

By GUY ASHLEY  
Contributor Times  
(Walnut Creek, Calif.)

OAKLAND, Calif. — Former Oakland Raiders tight end Marcus Williams was a "work in progress" whose future as a professional football player in whether he could bring more consistency to his blocking and pass-catching skills, his former coach said in a videotaped deposition played court Monday morning.

"There was an uncertainty as to whether he would mature into an NFL-caliber player," former Raiders coach Bill Callahan said in the deposition, which gave in August as part of Williams' lawsuit against former teammate Bill Romanowski.

Williams is seeking more than \$3.8 million in his suit, which accuses Romanowski of battery, intentional infliction of emotional distress and negligence in connection with an August 2003 practice field accident that caused him to kick off Williams' helmet and punched him in the left eye.

Williams' lawyers say the punch broke their client's eye socket and caused serious emotional and cognitive problems, ending his professional football career.

But Romanowski's lawyers have tried throughout the trial in Alameda County Superior Court to minimize Williams' potential losses, asserting he was a marginal player whose future in the NFL was doubtful when he was injured.

This view of Williams may have been bolstered by the statements from Callahan, who led the Raiders to the Super Bowl after the 2002 season but was fired after the team went 4-12 in 2003.

Williams was a rookie in 2002 and was trying to make the Raiders roster when he was felled by Romanowski's blow during the 2003 preseason. At the time, Callahan said, Williams was a regular on special teams who only occasionally displayed the skills needed to develop into a regular in the Raiders offense.

"In Marcus' case, there were elements that flashed — but not on a consistent basis," said Callahan, who was the coach at the University of Nebraska.

If Romanowski is found liable, the issue of damages will hinge largely on whether the jury believes Callahan had a future in the NFL.

An economist testified last week that Williams could have suffered as much as \$8.7 million in lost earnings, benefits and medical costs by having his career ended. But that figure assumes Williams would have developed into a regular player and had an NFL career spanning at least seven seasons, economist Robert Johnson testified.

Had Williams not progressed, Johnson added, the figure could have been as low as \$1.68 million.

Lawyers for Romanowski say they should complete their case Tuesday.

# Selig to testify before congressional committee

BY RONALD BLUM  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Major League Baseball gave a congressional committee about 400 pages of documents on drug testing and said commissioner Bud Selig was willing to testify at Thursday's hearing on steroid use.

Lawyers for Jason Giambi, Frank Thomas and Rafael Palmeiro asked the committee to withdraw subpoenas for their clients, and lawyers for players and the commissioner's office continued to negotiate with committee staff Monday, trying to narrow the scope of questioning. Bob DuPuy, baseball's chief operating officer, and Rob Manfred, the executive vice president in charge of labor relations, were in Washington to meet with the committee staff.

Just three days before the hearing, it remained unclear whether Mark McGwire, Giambi, Curt Schilling and other current and former stars would testify before the House Government Reform Committee.

Former AL MVP Jose Canseco and Schilling are the only players who have said they are willing to appear in Washington on Thursday.

Selig, who initially offered a top aide as a substitute, reversed course Monday and offered to appear.

"I am proud of the progress baseball has made on the subject of steroids and performance-enhancing drugs and look forward to sharing this information with the committee," he said in a statement. "The players stepped up this past January for an even

## Lawyers for three subpoenaed players work to get them excused from Thursday's hearing



**Commissioner Bud Selig said in a statement, "I am proud of the progress baseball has made on the subject of steroids and performance-enhancing drugs and look forward to sharing this information with the committee."**

stricter drug policy beginning this season demonstrating that all of us in baseball are committed to reaching zero tolerance."

Sammy Sosa, Thomas and Palmeiro were subpoenaed last week along with Canseco, whose recent book alleged several top players used steroids. Union head Donald Fehr also was summoned along with Manfred, baseball executive vice president Sandy Alderson and San Diego general manager Kevin Towers.

Canseco has asked for immunity in order to speak more freely.

The committee consulted the Justice Department but didn't expect to hear back until Tuesday evening, according to Canseco's lawyer, Robert Saunooke.

Saunooke said players were unsure whether the committee had power to grant immunity from both federal and state prosecution.

"There's a part of me that would like to believe that once immunity is granted by Congress, there's not a state prosecutor who would thumb their nose at this," he said.

In its subpoena last week, the committee asked for 11 types of documents, including current and past drug-testing agreements and policies going back to 1970, test results from 2003 and 2004, past management bargaining proposals and studies, and details of disciplinary action since 1990 related to drug use. It also asked for results of tests since given to players subject to "cause" testing, a group that includes Darryl Strawberry and Dwight Gooden.

"We gave them roughly 400 pages of documents, substantial compliance with all of the issues they identified in their subpoena relating to our policies and our aggregate numbers," said Stan Brand, a lawyer for the commissioner's office.

Asked what was not turned over, Brand responded, "We presented them with the gross figures, how many people were tested and how many turned out positive and how that. We did not give

anything relating to individual tests and results."

Brand said that because of the short time period, baseball could not assure the committee that all relevant information had been submitted.

"Under the circumstances, I think we're pretty confident we got all that they identified," Brand said.

Committee staff spent Monday examining the documents.

"I don't think they have a sense of what's in there," Robert White, a spokesman for committee chairman Tom Davis said.

David McIntosh and Michael Kantor, lawyers for Giambi, Palmeiro and Thomas, sent three letters to the committee. They asked that Giambi be excused until after the prosecution is over with because of his grand jury testimony.

"Giambi became the focus of extremely negative publicity, not only throughout the nation but worldwide," they wrote. "He will have to live with this stigma for the rest of his life."

For Palmeiro, they said "to require him to come to answer baseless charges is unfair." And for Thomas, they said traveling to Washington "could have adverse circulatory effects that could substantially impede Mr. Thomas' recovery" from ankle surgery.

Davis, a Virginia Republican, has threatened to cite any subpoenaed witness who doesn't appear

for contempt of Congress. He also has said one of the seven players summoned might be excused, most likely Giambi, who testified in 2003 before a federal grand jury investigating illegal steroid distribution.

A Yankees official, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said it was increasingly likely that Giambi will be excused. However, the subpoena cannot be formally withdrawn until the committee hears from the Justice Department.

Each witness is required to submit 100 copies of his opening statement to the committee by the close of business Tuesday, according to White. But he added that the deadline for statements often is not strictly enforced.

The union and players agents have discussed whether to offer to have a few of the players make statements to the committee but not answer questions, but the players' representatives were not all in favor of that strategy.

Brand said baseball was willing to have Alderson testify.

White House press secretary Scott McClellan said the hearings were a congressional matter but added "Major League Baseball is responding to the message that they heard. They have taken an important step to confront the problem. They're expanding testimony and increasing penalties."

Sen. Jim Bunning of Kentucky, a Hall of Fame pitcher invited to testify Thursday, said baseball's anti-drug testing program must be re-examined if changes aren't made to the sport's drug-testing program, which was recently modified to include a lifetime penalty for first-time offenders.

AP Sports writer Howard Federich in Washington contributed to this report.

## Cubs Prior out indefinitely with ailing elbow

The Associated Press

Now the Chicago Cubs have two injured aces.

Mark Prior will be out indefinitely because of inflammation in his right elbow, joining fellow fastballer Kerry Wood on the sidelines for a while.

Wood, slated to start on Opening Day, is out with bursitis in his right shoulder.

Cubs trainer Mark O'Neal said Monday the 24-year-old Prior has some inflammation in the elbow joint and a little irritation to the ulnar nerve.

Prior, an 18-game winner in 2003, missed the first two months of last season because of right Achilles' tendinitis and stiffness in his right elbow. Last July, he missed a start because of discomfort in the elbow. But Prior and O'Neal said the current injury is not related to last year's problem.

Prior made his Cactus League debut Thursday, throwing two innings against Seattle. He said Monday that while doing some routine postgame exercises, he felt discomfort in the elbow.

Cubs General Manager Jim Hendry said Prior saw elbow specialist Dr. Lewis Yocum last weekend and had a precautionary MRI on Sunday.

"There is no damage to the nerve," Hendry said. "The ligament remains exactly the same from the MRI last year."

Prior was supposed to pitch Tuesday



**Mark Prior experienced inflammation in his right elbow on Monday but the Cubs' trainer said the problem is not related to an injury in the same elbow that forced Prior to miss the first two months of last season.**

against Kansas City but will miss that start. O'Neal said that in addition to rest, Prior is taking anti-inflammatory medication and the Cubs would see how he responds before determining when he will first throw again.

Prior is scheduled to make his first start on April 5 at Arizona, the Cubs' second game of the season.

Wood played catch on flat ground Monday, testing his right shoulder. Pitching coach Larry Rothschild said the right-hander felt fine, and he could throw off a mound on Wednesday.

Rothschild said he expects Wood and Prior to be ready to make their first start of the regular season.

Yankees closer Mariano Rivera also has a sore right elbow, but his problem is not considered serious. He will be out at least a few days with mild bursitis.

"It's not a major concern," manager Joe Torre said in Tampa, Fla. "He will probably pitch by the end of the week."

Rivera is not concerned, and expects to be ready for Opening Day.

"I threw yesterday and everything was fine," Rivera said. "Today I got to the field and it felt like my elbow was a little sore. It's a little swelling in the elbow. I'll be ready for the season."

At Bradenton, Fla., Todd Ritchie told the Pittsburgh Pirates that he plans to retire, ending his comeback bid after missing nearly two seasons because of a right shoulder injury.

The Los Angeles Dodgers got much better news about Brad Penny in Vero Beach, Fla., where he had an impressive 65-pitch bullpen session.

Penny threw 14 breaking balls — the first he's thrown this spring as he continues to recover from a nerve injury in his righticeps last season.

"I felt really good," he said. "Even the changeups were good, which surprised me because it was the first time I'd thrown them."

If his next session goes well, it's possible Penny could pitch in an exhibition game within one week.

"It was really good for the first time. The fastballs were almost all at full strength," he said.

## Hearing delay hints of BALCO plea deal

BY DAVID KRAVETS

The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — A federal court hearing scheduled for Wednesday in which Barry Bonds' trainer would seek to dismiss the steroid distribution charges against him has been postponed for weeks, a legal Greg Anderson's lawyer said in a move to try to work out a plea deal.

"We're trying to resolve the case," Anderson's attorney, Anna Ling, said Tuesday. "We do not want to take this to trial. And we don't want to bring in baseball players to testify."

Federal prosecutors declined public comment about delaying until approximately June 26 a hearing in which Anderson would testify under a subpoena that authorized the search of his Burlingame house and car.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Jeffrey Nedrow said in court papers that the government would not object to the postponement.

Last week, a similar suppression hearing for Victor Conte, the Burlingame-based Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative founder who is also on trial, was indefinitely delayed because Conte fired his lawyers.

That postponement fueled speculation that perhaps he and BALCO vice president James Valente were looking for a deal, which Conte has said he has been seeking.

# HOME TEAM

A WEEKLY LOOK AT LOCAL SPORTS

## Where the boys and girls are

### Perry's co-ed team focuses on basics

BY DAVE ORNAUER  
Stars and Stripes

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — Runs piled up on the scoreboard as quickly as the weather deteriorated, but the Matthew C. Perry baseball team never showed signs of surrender despite losing the Japan Baseball League season opener to host Yokota 15-3 last Friday.

Anything good the team did — throw a strike, take a pitch for a ball, any little victory — brought an effusive reaction from the guys and gals in the Samurai dugout.

Guys and Gals? Yep. Last spring, Perry, with an enrollment of 125, fielded neither a baseball nor a softball team. So this spring, five former girls softball players donned stirrups and spikes — and the Samurai fielded the JBL's most unusual team.

Never mind that the squad of mostly freshmen and sophomores lost all three weekend games by 10 runs or more. They say they're having the time of their lives.

"We love the sport," said sophomore outfielder Danielle Ortiz. "I grew up on baseball as my life... such an adrenaline rush."

"We want to show the boys that girls can play like the guys," chimed in the school's first baseman Cynthia Ortiz, a freshman.

Having the Samurai girls on the team "is great," coach George Suther said. "They listen. They want to learn, get in there with the guys and take their licks just like them."

The boy-girl roster is something new for Perry, which has had difficulties fielding teams in several sports. Injuries, ineligibility and a lack of experienced players caused the school's football program to fold this fall, just months after being unable to field baseball and softball teams. The 2003 boys basketball team took just five players to the Far East Class A Tournament; the same number as the 2003 girls team.

Further shrinking the baseball player pool was the decision by three former players to switch to soccer.



PHOTO BY DAVE ORNAUER/Stars and Stripes

Baseball is where the boys and the girls are for the Matthew C. Perry Samurai this season. From left, team captain Neil Suther, Danielle Ortiz (top), Kirsten Okland, Cynthia Ortiz, Lisa Garber, team captain Mike Menserado and Rebekka Claudio. Perry has five girls on its team this season.



DAVE ORNAUER/Stars and Stripes

Freshman Cynthia Ortiz is the regular starter at second base for Matthew C. Perry.

"That drew us back at bit," Suther said.

Of the five Samurai girls players, only the Ortiz sisters had touched a baseball bat or glove.

But the team "needed help," Cynthia said. So she, her sister and seniors Lisa Garber and Rebekka Claudio and freshman Kirsten Okland stepped in.

"Zama had a girls player," Danielle recalled of four-year Zama American pitcher and outfielder Allison Amara, the league's first female player. "All we needed was a female chaperone."

The co-ed team faces growing pains. The weekend saw its share of dropped pop-ups, overthrows and batting and base-running mistakes.

"We're working out the kinks," said Danielle, who's gone from playing fast-pitch softball in the United States to slow-pitch in Japan and now to baseball. "But we're having fun."

The Samurai didn't criticize mistakes but cheered and supported each other from first pitch to last out.

"There will be other games," said pitcher-first baseman Mike Menserado. "Win or lose, we're out there to have fun."

"I look at them as members of the team," pitcher Neil Suther said. "Players who want to play and can play. Just like family."

*"They want to learn, get in there with the guys and take their licks just like them."*

George Suther  
Matthew C. Perry coach

The girls have earned similar respect from Yokota senior pitcher Shawn Novak.

"I have good spirit," he said. "I'm glad they want to play." But Novak said, "I won't let up or change anything I do. Baseball is baseball. Throw to the mitt, get the out."

For now, the Samurai plan to take their lumps while working on everything from recognizing coaching signs to communicating in the field to execution.

"Once we get it together," Neil Suther said, "we'll be better than Yokota. Girls and all."

E-mail Dave Ornauer at: ornaui@jstribes.com

### This week's schedule

#### Japan

##### Boys soccer

**Friday, March 18**  
Robert D. Edgren vs. Yokota, 3 p.m.; Nile C. Kinnick at E.J. King, 5 p.m.; Zama American at Matthew C. Perry, 5 p.m.

**Saturday, March 19**  
Edgren at Yokota, 10 a.m.; Zama at Perry, 10 a.m.; Kinnick at King, 10 a.m.

**Tuesday, March 22**  
St. Maur Int'l vs. Zama, 5 p.m.

##### Girls soccer

**Friday, March 18**  
Zama American at Yokota, 3 p.m.; Robert D. Edgren vs. Nile C. Kinnick at Ikego Heights Naval Housing Facility, 5 p.m.; Matthew C. Perry vs. Kinnick at Ikego Heights, 6:30 p.m.

**Saturday, March 19**  
M.C. Perry vs. Kinnick at Ikego Heights Naval Housing Facility, 10 a.m.; Edgren vs. Kinnick at Ikego Heights, 11:30 a.m.; American School in Japan at Yokota, 10 a.m.; ASU vs. St. Maur Int'l at Camp Zama, noon; St. Maur Int'l at Zama, 2 p.m.

##### Baseball

**Friday, March 18**  
Matthew C. Perry and Robert D. Edgren at Zama American, 10 a.m.

**Saturday, March 19**  
M.C. Perry and Edgren at Zama, 10 a.m.; Nile C. Kinnick at St. Mary's Int'l, 10 a.m.; American School in Japan at Yokota, 10 a.m.

**Tuesday, March 22**  
St. Mary's Int'l at Yokota, 1 p.m.; ASU at Zama, 3:30 p.m.

##### Girls softball

**Friday, March 18**  
E.J. King at Nile C. Kinnick, 5:30 p.m.

**Saturday, March 19**  
E.J. King vs. Robert D. Edgren at Camp Zama, 10 a.m.; Zama American at Kinnick, 10 a.m.

##### Okinawa

**Saturday, March 19**  
Japanese school TBD at Kadena, 11 a.m.; Japanese school TBD at Kubaishi, 11 a.m.

##### Girls soccer

**Saturday, March 19**  
Japanese school TBD at Kadena, 9 a.m.; Japanese school TBD at Kubaishi, 9 a.m.

##### Baseball

**Saturday, March 19**  
Kubasaki and Kadena against Japanese teams TBD, Chibana Recreation Area.

##### Girls softball

**Saturday, March 19**  
Kubasaki and Kadena against Japanese teams TBD, Chibana Recreation Area.

##### Gym

**Boys basketball Postseason**  
**Friday, March 18**  
Game 7 loser, time and site to be determined.  
Game 9-Championship, Game 6 winner vs. Game 7 winner, time and site to be determined.

### Game of the week

#### Boys soccer

**Robert D. Edgren (C) at Yokota (4-0)**  
**When:** 3 p.m. Friday, March 18, and 10 a.m. March 19.  
**Where:** Bank field, Yokota High School, Yokota, Chiba Prefecture, Japan.  
**What:** Early season battle among two unknown teams in the Japan Soccer League.

**Notes:** The host Panthers opened their season strongly, scoring 29 goals in four games, including a 10-0 win over the Canadian Academy 8-3 and 9-3 last week. The New Wave team's players didn't dominate in that manner. In fact, they were out of touch in both matches against homecoming Matthew Perry, but pulled out 2-1 and 3-2 victories last weekend at Iwakuni Marine Corps Air Station.

**Players to watch:** Junior striker Bronson Bailey led the way for Yokota with seven goals. Goalkeeper midfielder Stefan Hughes, meanwhile, set up seven goals while leading the way for Edgren. Patrick Pezoulas and Nathan Fine each scored twice. Fine scored twice in the 2-2 triumph that capped Edgren's weekend.

### ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

#### Shawn Novak

Yokota, Japan

Last week: Pitched seven perfect innings over two starts, helping the Panthers start the Japan Baseball League season with a 4-0 record.

Novak, a senior, threw a perfect game Friday, striking out 14 of the 15 batters he faced in a 16-0 win over Robert D.



Edgren, a game called after five innings due to the league's 10-run mercy rule.

He struck out all six batters he faced in two innings Saturday, setting the tone of Yokota's 19-0 three-inning-mercy-rule win over Matthew C. Perry.

"This is his sport," coach Brian Kitts said. "This is his love, his passion. As a coach, you're blessed to have somebody who's not only passionate about it but is that good."

Selected by Stars and Stripes staff.

#### Saya Novinger

Swimming  
American

Last week: Took third place in the high-point standings for girls aged 13 and 14 in the 2005 American Swim Council in Japan's Joint Olympic Swim Meet at St. Mary's International School, Tokyo.

Novinger did not win any individual events but finished no lower than fifth in all



six of her events for Seoul American, in its first visit to the meet since March 2001. It was the highest finish for a CDO swimmer since Juliet Stern of Okinawa won the girls 15-18 high point in 2000.

"She loves to get up for meets," said her father and coach George Novinger. "She loves to race. She does not like to lose. If you give her a challenge, she tries to see if she can meet that challenge."

Selected by Stars and Stripes staff.





# Slumping Terps, Irish get second chance

## NIT gives teams another shot at postseason success

BY HOWIE RUMBERG  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Maryland and Notre Dame faltered down the stretch, and now they'll have to finish their seasons in the NIT.

"One of our goals was to win the national championship, and right now we're not in the tournament," Maryland forward Nick Caner-Medley said Sunday. "As a team we didn't reach our goals, so I'm disappointed."

Maryland (16-12) lost five of six, including the last four, and was eliminated by Clemson in the first round of the ACC tournament.

The rough finish helped snap its school-record 11 straight trips to the NCAA tournament. The Terrapins will play Wednesday against Oral Roberts, which is making its first postseason appearance in eight years.

"This is something our guys will be excited about, especially playing Maryland and playing on national TV," Oral Roberts coach Scott Sutton said. "We'll be playing in front of the entire country."

Notre Dame is making its second straight trip to the NIT after losing four of its first five, including an embarrassing 72-65 loss to last-place Rutgers in the first round of the Big East tournament. Coach Mike Brey felt one more win probably would have clinched an NCAA berth.

"You can say all you want, we had opportunities," Brey said. "You had chances to nail it and you didn't nail it."

Instead, the Fighting Irish will face Holy Cross (24-6) Tuesday in South Bend.

The 68th National Invitation Tournament started Monday with Western Michigan beating Marquette 54-40. The final is on March 31 at Madison Square Garden.

Conference USA had five schools selected for the 68th NIT, the ACC and Mid-American Conference each had four teams chosen, and the Colonial Athletic Association had three. America East is sending two teams — Northeastern and Boston University — to the tournament for the first time. The Big East, Big 12, Pac-10 and Southeastern Conference each had

two. There are 11 teams with at least two wins, down from 13 last year. Indiana (15-13) was one of three teams with 15 victories — the fewest wins by selected teams. Missouri (16-16), the only .500 team in the tournament, hosts DePaul (19-10).

Saint Joseph's (19-11) made it to the NCAA regional finals a year ago, but is one of two Atlantic 10 teams in the NIT. The other, Temple (16-13), will have coach John Chaney back on the bench for its first-round game Tuesday against the ACC's Virginia Tech (15-13), the school said Monday. Maryland missed the final five games of the season as punishment for ordering rough play from one of its players that resulted in an injury to senior John Bryant of Saint Joseph's.

With an opportunity to show up a former boss, Frank Haith will lead Miami (16-12) against South Carolina (15-13). South Carolina coach Dave Odom, when he was at Wake Forest, gave Haith his first job.

"The NIT is all about matchups, and they looked at Dave Odom, myself and our relationship when they put this together," Haith said.

Buffalo (22-9) will host Drexel (17-11) of the Colonial on Wednesday in the first round. Buffalo missed its first postseason appearance since moving up to Division I 14 years ago. Losers in overtime to

Ohio University in the Mid-American Conference championship game, the Bulls took little solace in their invitation.

"There won't be any consolation," coach Reggie Witherspoon said. "But we'll show up and give everything we've got. That will be separate from the NCAA tournament. We'll play as hard as we absolutely can for as long as we have to play."

Two other Mid-American Conference schools play Wednesday: Miami (Ohio, 19-13) hosts Texas Christian (19-13), and Kent State (20-12) faces Western Kentucky (21-8).

Joining Drexel from the Colonial is Hofstra (21-8), facing Saint Joseph's on Wednesday, and Virginia Commonwealth (19-12) hosts Davidson (21-8), which went 16-0 to win the Southern Conference regular season.

Georgetown (17-12), the other Big East team, will host Boston University (20-8).

Other first-round matchups are Cal-State Fullerton (19-10) at Oregon State (17-14); Rice (19-11) at Southwest Missouri State (18-12); Denver (20-10) at San Francisco (16-13); Houston (18-13) at Wichita State (20-9); Vanderbilt (18-13) at Indiana (15-13); Clemson (16-15) at Texas A&M (19-9); Northeastern (21-9) at Memphis (19-15); and Arizona State (18-13) at UNLV (16-13).



## Your Resort on Guam

Comfort, Service & Value

### Special Military Rates

Starting at \$72\*

/night plus tax


\*Based upon availability. Please present military ID upon check-in.  
Room & car package is available. Please contact us for details.

133 Lagoona Drive Tamuning, Guam 96913  
T: 671-647-8855 F: 671-647-8860  
www.hotelstafegum.com  
reserv@hotelstafegum.com

Only a 3 1/2 hour flight away

SANTA FE GUAM

## C'mon Get Happy!



Get your Happy Ad in Stripes today!  
Want to hook up with an old friend?  
Send your girlfriend a birthday greeting?  
Or congratulate your friend on a recent promotion?  
Whatever the occasion, book your Happy Ad today in Stars and Stripes!

Check out the details:

1. Email your greeting and digital photo to classifieds@pstripes.osd.mil.
2. Stars and Stripes reserves the right to edit or reject any Happy Ad.
3. A one-time \$30 fee for each ad must be prepaid prior to publication.

You may opt to use a credit card or you may visit the nearest Stars and Stripes circulation office and pay by check.

• Ads will run in the classified section.

We met at the Globe & Anchor the night of October 20, 2002. I was with my friends from Tokyo. I met you at a small address and I fell more than I can say. I was just to see you or been looking for me...here I am. Thanks again for the fun evening and the ride back to my room.

Kisses, Alicia.

## Western Michigan opens with a win

The Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — Levi Rost had 18 points and Brian Snyder added 11 to lead Western Michigan over Marquette 54-40 in the first round of the NIT on Monday night.

Marquette (19-12) was without leading scorer Travis Diener, who sustained a season-ending hand injury in practice Feb. 22.

"What concerned us was they played four games already without Travis and we didn't have film on any of them," Western Michigan coach Steve Hawkins said.

Marquette, making its second straight trip to the NIT after reaching the NCAA Final Four in 2003, made a season-low one three-pointer in 21 attempts.

"The game tonight was certainly not how we built the program during my first six years here," Marquette coach Tom Crean said. "You cannot let your offensive woes carry over to the other end and give up easy baskets. You just can't do it."

The Broncos (20-12) won their first game of the NIT for the second time in three years and will play the winner of Wednesday's matchup between Texas Christian and Miami (Ohio) in the second round.

Brian Snider added 11 points for the Western Michigan, which had its best defensive game since beating Central Michigan 84-39 on Jan. 29.

Sophomore Dameron Mason led Marquette with 14 points, while Marcus Jackson had 11 rebounds. The Golden Eagles were held to less than 40 points for the second time in three games.

Western Michigan scored the

first five points of the second half to open a 32-23 lead. But Todd Townsend scored eight of Marquette's first 10 points to help the Golden Eagles close to 37-33.

Marquette then went 51-4 without a point and 61-9 without a field goal, and Western Michigan took a 42-33 lead on Rost's second three-pointer of the half.

Sophomore forward Mike Kinsella scored six straight points to give the Golden Eagles a 19-17 lead. Western Michigan used an 8-2 run to take a 25-21 lead with 2:37 left in the half.

Western Michigan had lost nine of 15, including a loss to Buffalo in the semifinals of the Mid-American Conference tournament.

Marquette has lost 10 of 15.

"I never picked going out like this," said Townsend, a senior.

### NIT

#### Opening Round

Wednesday  
Hofstra (21-8) at Saint Joseph's (19-11)  
Drexel (17-14) at Virginia Commonwealth (19-12)  
Rice (19-11) at Southwest Missouri State (18-12)  
Kent State (20-12) at Western Kentucky (21-8)  
Denver (20-10) at San Francisco (16-13)  
Fullerton (19-10) at Oregon State (17-14)

#### First Round

Wednesday  
Western Michigan (20-12) at Marquette (19-12)  
Holy Cross (24-6) at Norfolk State (17-11)  
Miami (16-12) at South Carolina (15-13)  
Temple (16-13) at Virginia Tech (15-13)  
DePaul (19-10) at Missouri (16-16)  
Thursday  
Texas Christian (19-13) at Miami (Ohio) (19-10)  
Boston (18-13) at Georgetown (17-12)  
Northeastern (21-9) at Wake Forest (20-8)  
Yankeeville (18-13) at Indiana (15-13)  
Clemson (16-15) at Texas A&M (19-9)  
Oral Roberts (25-7) at Miami (16-12)  
Friday  
Arizona State (18-13) at UNLV (16-13)  
Rice (19-11) at Virginia Commonwealth (19-12)  
Fullerton (19-10) at Oregon State (17-14)  
Kent St./W. Kentucky vs. Houston/Wichita State/Bufalo vs. Hofstra/Saint Joseph's

# Free picks to help stop bracket busters

BY TODD HARMONSON  
The Orange County Register

Picking last season's national champion by mascot cut quotient clearly didn't work. Uniform color didn't do much good the year before, either. And not even get started on the fight song fiasco.

Sound a little too familiar? Probably does for anyone who has gotten in too deep when it comes time for the annual NCAA tournament pool (for entertainment purposes only, of course).

Can't swim with the pool sharks? Well, face it. They're watching so much time watching hoops that they name their kids Tubby, K, Dickie Y and Digger or they know some simple basics about recent tournament trends.

For instance, everyone knows that 42 of the past 66 national champions came from the Atlantic Coast, the Big Ten, the Pac-10 or the Southeastern conferences. And it's obvious that teams with strong road and neutral-court records are better than the homebodies.

But it takes a little research to realize that since 1979 only six seeds — Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 8 — have produced national champions.

The following are trends you might want to follow when you fill out your bracket for the office pool. They might be your only chance against the guy who legally changed his name to RPI.

## Avoid 16 seeds the way Bob Knight avoids group hugs with reporters

**The skinny:** No 16th-seeded team ever has beaten a No. 1 seed. In fact, the only time they win in the tournament is in the Tuesday play-in game ... against another No. 16.

## Teams seeded 14th, 15th nearly as upstaging as the No. 16s

**The skinny:** Teams seeded 14th, 15th and 16th have won only one tournament game in the past five seasons. They are a combined 1-59 in that span in first-round games, so, hey, there is a precedent.

## Make heads or tails of those pesky 8-9 games

**The skinny:** It's not exactly a coin flip, but it's close. If in doubt, lean toward the nines. They have a 43-37 advantage over the eights in the past 20 NCAA tournaments. That's not exactly true, though, which you should risk the kids' college fund but it's better than guessing.

**Best pick:** No 9 Nevada looks good over Texas, as does No. 9 Mississippi State over Stanford.

## Look for that perfect 10

**The skinny:** No, we're not talking Ashley Judd in the stands of the Kentucky-Eastern Kentucky opener. Take a look at recent brackets and realize that a 10th-seeded team has reached the Sweet 16 in eight of the past eight seasons. But, remember, it gets tricky because of the pod system that puts high seeds as close to home as possible. So a No. 2 seed isn't likely to lose in the second round in its backyard.

**Best pick:** North Carolina State draws sleeping Charlotte in the first round and inconsistent Connecticut in the second.

## Reach for the 12

**The skinny:** No. 12 seeds almost always are tournament winners from some conference no one sees until championship week on ESPN, and they tend to be the unknowns in the field. Think fans overlook them? Apparently, so do the No. 5 seeds in the first round and the No. 4 seeds in the second. A No. 12 seed has reached the



N.C. State's Julius Hodge (24) gives the Wolfpack a chance to be a perfect 10.

Sweet 16 in four of the past six years.

**Best pick:** Sneak a peak at Old Dominion, which plays on Michigan State in the first round and, potentially, Syracuse in the second.

## Make the math equal nine

**The skinny:** With the intense focus on the seeding process, the tournament selection committee has been getting it right lately. The total of the combined seeds at the Final Four has exceeded nine only twice in the past 10 years, and only one time in that span did a team seeded lower than No. 9 reach the Final Four. It happened in 2000, when No. 8 seeds North Carolina and Wisconsin both made it. So go ahead and pick a No. 9 seed, but the rest

should be seeded first and second.

**Best pick:** The hottest-looking No. 9 clearly is 2004 title-game participant Georgia Tech, as long as point guard Jarrett Jack's ankle heals.

## There's a reason they're No. 1 or No. 2

**The skinny:** Everybody wants to find his dream pick, the one that can take him to the title. But after about five days, there's a major change of heart and he wants out of the deal. Oh, wait, that was Rick Majerus with USC. But you get the point. Don't take the longshots to win it all because they rarely do. In fact, 13 of the past 15 national champions were seeded first or second.

**Best pick:** The vision of Roy Williams cutting down the nets works here. Try

## Sizing up the NCAA regions

### Chicago Regional

#### THE GAMES

**Thursday in Indianapolis**  
No. 1 Illinois vs. No. 16 Fairfield Dickinson  
No. 8 Texas vs. No. 9 Nevada

**Friday in Oklahoma City**  
No. 2 Oklahoma State vs. No. 16 SE Louisiana  
No. 7 Southern Illinois vs. No. 15 Saint Mary's

**Thursday in Boise, Idaho**  
No. 3 Arizona vs. No. 14 Utah State  
No. 6 LSU vs. No. 11 Utah

**Thursday in Cleveland**  
No. 4 Boston College vs. No. 13 Penn  
No. 5 Alabama State vs. No. 12 Wisconsin-Milwaukee

**Most overlooked:** None really. But Arizona could be surprised if it wanted. It had the return to be a No. 2, especially since it's coming off a season of 20 wins.

**5 best players:** LSU's F. Brandon Bass, Illinois' G. Joe Graham, Nevada's P. J. White, Oklahoma State's J. Dee Graham, Utah State's C. Craig Smith.

**5 most undervalued players:** Louisville's D. Darren Brooks, Oklahoma State's G. P. J. White, Penn's G. P. J. White, Wisconsin-Milwaukee's G. Ed McCants, Utah State's F. Brandon Bass.

**Best upset possibility:** First, No. 9 beating No. 8 isn't only a possibility, it's a sure thing. But there are four games working looking at, though we don't only get a first-round game. The possibilities: UAB over LSU (LSU has the horses up front to overpower UAB, but the Tigers guard (UAB) Smith will make things interesting against the run-and-gun Blazers); Utah State's A. J. White (UAB) Smith will make things interesting against the run-and-gun Blazers); Utah State's A. J. White (UAB) Smith will make things interesting against the run-and-gun Blazers); Utah State's A. J. White (UAB) Smith will make things interesting against the run-and-gun Blazers).

**Best 1st-round game:** We'll take any one of the four we mentioned. If you like a quick game, be sure to watch LSU-UAB.

**Best 2nd-round game:** While LSU has bulky big men in Brandon Bass and Glen "Big Baby" Howard, Penn's D. J. White is a point guard.

**Best potential 2nd-round game:** Arizona-LSU or Arizona-UAB would be mighty fine. There are questions about Arizona's frontcourt, but the men who play close big-time problems. The Arizona-UAB matchup would be the least.

#### THE PICKS

**1st-round winners:** Illinois, LSU and Nevada in Boise; Oklahoma State and Saint Mary's in Oklahoma City; Boston College and Cleveland in Cleveland.

**2nd-round winners:** Illinois, Oklahoma State, Alabama and Penn.

**Sweet 16 winners:** Illinois and Oklahoma State. Advancing to the Final Four: Illinois.

—Mike Huguett/The Orlando Sentinel

### Austin Regional

#### THE GAMES

**Friday in Charlotte**  
No. 1 Duke vs. No. 16 Delaware State  
No. 8 Stanford vs. No. 9 Mississippi State

**Thursday in Indianapolis**  
No. 2 Kentucky vs. No. 15 Eastern Kentucky  
No. 7 Cincinnati vs. No. 10 Iowa

**Thursday in Tucson, Ariz.**  
No. 3 Oklahoma vs. No. 14 Niagara  
No. 6 Utah vs. No. 11 UTUT

**Friday in Worcester, Mass.**  
No. 4 Syracuse vs. No. 13 Vermont  
No. 5 Michigan State vs. No. 12 Old Dominion

**Most overlooked:** The Hokies, who finished two games under .500 in the regular season. But they're a 10-11 team.

**5 best players:** LSU's C. Craig Smith, Vermont's F. Lawrence Roberts, Syracuse's F. Hakim Warrick, Stanford's F. Matt Harvey, and Michigan State's F. Lawrence Roberts.

**5 most undervalued players:** Oklahoma's F. Taj Gray, Stanford's F. Matt Harvey, and Michigan State's F. Lawrence Roberts.

**Best upset possibility:** UTEP over UAB and Old Dominion over Michigan State are the ones we're looking at the disease. UAB essentially is a one-man team—though that one man, C. Craig Smith, may be the nation's best player. UTEP will enjoy a quicksilver advantage, but that won't matter if C. Craig Smith dominates. Michigan State starts its upset chances in the second round, but we still don't believe in the Spartans, who look to be in the first round at a 50-50 disadvantage.

**Best 1st-round game:** Cincinnati-Iowa isn't necessarily as close a matchup as it seems. The game we talked about in the upset possibilities should be close—No. 1 vs. No. 11.

**Best potential 2nd-round game:** Syracuse-Michigan State would be the best—assuming Michigan State gets to the second round.

**Best 2nd-round game:** Kentucky, Oklahoma and Alabama.

**Best 3rd-round game:** Kentucky, Oklahoma and Alabama.

**Sweet 16 winners:** Duke and Mississippi State in Charlotte; UConn and Charlotte; Worcester; Kansas and Wisconsin in Oklahoma City; Florida and Villanova in Nashville.

**Advancing to the Final Four:** Syracuse.

—Mike Huguett/The Orlando Sentinel

### Syracuse Regional

#### THE GAMES

**Friday in Charlotte:**  
No. 1 North Carolina vs. play-in winner (Alabama A&M vs. Oakland)  
No. 8 Minnesota vs. No. 9 Iowa State

**Friday in Worcester, Mass.**  
No. 2 Connecticut vs. No. 15 UConn  
No. 7 Charlotte vs. No. 10 NC State

**Friday in Oklahoma City**  
No. 3 Kansas vs. No. 14 Kentucky  
No. 6 Wisconsin vs. No. 11 Northern Iowa

**Friday in Nashville**  
No. 4 Florida vs. No. 13 Ohio U.  
No. 5 Villanova vs. No. 12 New Mexico

**Most overlooked:** North Carolina. To some folks, UNC shouldn't be in the field. But the Panthers have lost 10 games, finished tied for third in the Missouri Valley and lost in the quarterfinals of the conference tournament. I mean, it's a little weird. A Division I team can't have the appearance of a conflict of interest?

**5 best players:** Charlotte's G. Eddie Basden, NC State's G. Julius Hodge, UConn's C. Sean May, UConn's G. Rashad McCants, Kansas's F. Hakim Warrick.

**5 most undervalued players:** Villanova's G. Randy Foye, New Mexico's P. Danny Granger, Minnesota's G. Vincent Griffin, Northern Iowa's G. Ben Jacobson, Iowa State's C. Curtis Strick.

**Best upset possibility:** OK, we've already said North Carolina shouldn't be in the field. But if UConn is hitting its 3-pointers, it can beat Wisconsin. Ben Jacobson has a great stroke, and he'll get a ton of screens to help him get open. That said, Wisconsin is sound defensively and is very ready to play.

**Best 1st-round game:** Charlotte vs. NC State. These lackluster teams have a lot to play for. There should be a great individual between #9s G. Eddie Basden and Wolfpack's Julius Hodge.

**Best potential 2nd-round game:** There usually isn't much difference between Florida and Villanova, but there is much difference between Florida and Villanova. UF's key players are two juniors and a senior, and Villanova's key players are three juniors. Both finished second in their conference.

**Best 2nd-round game:** Villanova's first NCAA appearance since 1999.

**Best 3rd-round game:** Villanova's first NCAA appearance since 1999.

**Sweet 16 winners:** North Carolina and UConn. Advancing to the Final Four: Connecticut.

—Mike Huguett/The Orlando Sentinel

### Albuquerque Regional

#### THE GAMES

**Thursday in Boise, Idaho**  
No. 1 Washington vs. No. 16 Montana  
No. 8 Pacific vs. No. 9 Pittsburgh

**Thursday in Cleveland**  
No. 2 Wake Forest vs. No. 15 Chattanooga  
No. 7 West Virginia vs. No. 10 Virginia Tech

**Thursday in Tucson, Ariz.**  
No. 3 Gonzaga vs. No. 14 New Mexico  
No. 6 Texas Tech vs. No. 11 UCLA

**Friday in Nashville**  
No. 4 Louisville vs. No. 13 LaSalle  
No. 5 Villanova vs. No. 12 BUZZ

**Most overlooked:** Georgia Tech. Yes, the Yellow Jackets made a nice run to the ACC tournament final, but if teams are seeded on their body of work during the regular season, Tech comes up short. The Yellow Jackets lost 11 games and have just two wins over teams in the top 50 of the RPI.

**5 best players:** Pittsburgh's Louisville. Each has some games, as each could be at least one spot higher. Louisville won Conference USA by two games, then won the league tournament. Pittsburgh's Cardinals have won 18 of their last 20 games.

**5 most undervalued players:** Louisville's G. P. J. White, Texas Tech's G. P. J. White, Virginia Tech's G. P. J. White, Louisville's G. P. J. White, Texas Tech's G. P. J. White.

**Best upset possibility:** This regional is a play game defense, it can beat Georgia Tech. The Yellow Jackets will be able to fire away from 3-point range and are good on the boards. If Creighton is hitting, the Yellow Jackets will be able to fire away from 3-point range and are good on the boards. If Creighton is hitting, the Yellow Jackets will be able to fire away from 3-point range and are good on the boards. If Creighton is hitting, the Yellow Jackets will be able to fire away from 3-point range and are good on the boards.

**Best 1st-round game:** We'll take Georgia Tech-Georgia. For as much as we like to watch G. P. J. White, Mensal-Bonta operating in the low post — and also like to hear his name called by the announcer, if you don't mind watching Gonzaga-Tech, Tech. The Zags have beaten Oklahoma State and Texas Tech in the past two years. Washington's Tech's net offense, but Ben Knight's crew would specifically Rony Turf and A. Adam Morrison.

**Best 2nd-round game:** Washington and Pittsburgh in Boise; Wake Forest and Chattanooga in Cleveland; and Texas Tech in Tucson; Louisville and Georgia Washington in Nashville.

**Best 3rd-round game:** Wake Forest, Gonzaga, Louisville and New Mexico.

**Sweet 16 winners:** Wake Forest and Louisville. Advancing to the Final Four: Wake Forest.

—Mike Huguett/The Orlando Sentinel

# Smith, Ford not laughing at NCAA's joke

Coaches are less than thrilled as UK and Eastern prepare to play

BY MURRAY EVANS  
The Associated Press

RICHMOND, Ky. — Travis Ford wore a brave face one day after learning his Eastern Kentucky Colonels would face second-seeded Kentucky in the opening round of the NCAA tournament.

A week ago, the former Kentucky point guard said several times he'd rather Eastern Kentucky (25-5) than face his alma mater in its first tournament appearance since 1979.

But the selection committee matched up the 15th-seeded Colonels (22-8) against their rival from 30 miles away at the Austin Regional.

"I don't think it's either good or bad," Ford said. "We knew we were going to have to play somebody very, very good. We're going to be an underdog. We're going to have to play extremely well. It's going to be an incredible challenge for us."

A pairing of the rival seemed a bit unlikely last week, when Kentucky (25-5) was in the running for a No. 1 seed. But the Wildcats' 70-53 loss to Florida in the South-eastern Conference tournament final on Sunday dropped them to a No. 2 seed.

Ford thought the Kentucky-Eastern Kentucky matchup would be "too obvious" for the tournament committee to consider.

Kentucky coach Tubby Smith shared that sentiment.

"We would prefer that we be able to cheer for them," Smith said. "We're sure our fans would love to cheer for Eastern Kentucky, as well. But I guess the selection committee saw this as a good opportunity to match us up."

**"I think they had to look at it and think, 'Let's do this.' I don't know any other reason they'd put two teams 30 miles apart from each other together. I think the NCAA got a little bit of a chuckle out of it at the end."**

Travis Ford  
Eastern Kentucky coach



Kentucky coach Tubby Smith, left, isn't thrilled with his team's first-round assignment in the NCAA tournament. It's against Eastern Kentucky, a team from a school only 30 miles away that is coached by Travis Ford, a former star guard at Kentucky. Ford likewise dislikes the idea of facing a friend and former colleague.

The decision by the committee to pair the Colonels and Wildcats isn't a particularly popular one in central Kentucky, where the schools share a number of fans, although Kentucky loyalists are far more prevalent.

Eastern Kentucky forward Michael Haney even acknowledges growing up as a Kentucky supporter.

"I was born in Missouri, but I moved to Kentucky in the fourth grade," Haney, a senior, said. "I followed them. I was a pretty big UK fan."

Conversely, many Kentucky fans have begun following the Colonels in the five seasons that Ford has been coach. Ford played one season at Missouri before transferring to Kentucky, where

he played until 1994 under coach Rick Pitino and helped the Wildcats reach the Final Four in 1993.

Ford ranks second in career free-throw shooting (88.2 percent) and ninth in career assists at Kentucky. He holds the single-game record for assists with 15 — set against Eastern Kentucky in 1993.

Kentucky-Eastern Kentucky is

one of only two first-round matchups between teams from the same state. Charlotte and North Carolina State were paired in the Syracuse Regional.

"I think there was a reason they did it," Ford said of the committee's rationale. "I think they had to look at it and think, 'Let's do this.' I don't know any other reason they'd put two teams 30 miles apart from each other together."

"I think the NCAA got a little bit of a chuckle out of it at the end."

Smith, who worked with Ford as an assistant to Pitino at Kentucky, is one of Ford's biggest fans. Smith and Ford have remained close — the Eastern Kentucky coach and his staff even stay on at a Kentucky practice earlier this season.

"We're excited for Eastern, that they're in," Smith said.

"They're very deserving. We watched (Ford) build that program the right way."

In his eight seasons at Kentucky, Smith has scheduled in-state schools when possible. The Wildcats have played Eastern Kentucky three times during his tenure, most recently last season, a 101-72 win by the Wildcats in Lexington.

"It's not like we don't play (each other)," Smith said. "You hate to play (in the postseason) against friends and peers that you have so much respect for. That's always tough, because somebody has to win and somebody has to lose."

Eastern Kentucky is 0-5 in NCAA tournament play, while Kentucky has won seven national titles and reached the Final Four 13 times.

Only four 15th-seeded teams have ever won a tournament game. But Haney said the Colonels won't be intimidated.

"Once the ball is thrown up, anything can happen," Haney said. "It's happened four times for a reason — because it's possible."

## MAC wondering what it takes to be invited to dance

BY MICHAEL MAROT  
The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Charlie Coles thought Miami of Ohio's résumé was strong enough for an at-large bid to the NCAA tournament: an 18-11 record, the Mid-American Conference regular-season title, No. 29 in the RPI and a schedule strength of .49.

It didn't impress the 10-member selection committee, and Coles is worried about the message being sent to the MAC, which got just one team into the 65-team field despite five teams ranked in the top 55 of the RPI.

"What it says is that the committee has never, ever respected our league," Coles said Monday, one day after the brackets were announced.

As usual, the six power conferences — Atlantic Coast, Big East, Big Ten, Big 12, Pac-10 and Southeastern — dominated the field, accounting for 31 of the 65 teams, including 25 of 34 at-large bids.

Add soon-to-be Big East members Louis-

ville and Cincinnati, from Conference USA, and the numbers increase to 33 and 26.

That left only eight spots open for teams in conferences like the MAC and Atlantic 10. Three of those were swallowed up by upset winners in the conference tournaments — something committee chairman Bob Bowlsby suggested Monday played a key part in some teams being left out.

"The committee thought there were better teams, but I would also suggest that some of the upsets may have affected the MAC teams, including Miami and Buffalo," Bowlsby said.

The annual debate about life in a mid-major league didn't end with that explanation.

A year ago, Saint Joseph's earned a top seed. This year, the Hawks (19-11) were doomed by a RPI of 60 and a 3-2 record against nonconference opponents.

Wichita State (20-9) of the Missouri Valley Conference was left out despite an RPI of 47. Three other teams were taken from the MAC — Southern Illinois, Creighton and Northern Iowa.

Northeastern (24-9) of America East didn't even appear on the NCAA's list of other teams considered despite an RPI of 42.

Bowlsby has talked frequently over the past two years about evaluating each school's complete resume, including conference RPI ratings.

According to the NCAA's own numbers, the MAC was the 10th strongest league this year. Conference USA, which ranked ninth, got four bids. The Mountain West and Western Athletic, which ranked 11th and 12th, each had two teams make it.

"You may eliminate somebody by their nonconference schedule or their road record. Those are things that are difficult to separate," Bowlsby said. "You can play yourself out of a bad seed, but you can't play yourself into the tournament. That's the harsh reality."

It's also what Miami, Buffalo, Kent State and Akron are dealing with now. Buffalo (22-9) was No. 32 in the RPI, Kent State No. 52 and Akron No. 55.

It wasn't just the MAC that was disappointed.

"My only hope was that the A-10 has historically done well in the tournament," Saint Joseph's coach Phil Martelli said. "I hoped it would have two representatives. When you're on the razor, you have to give a reason to put you in and a reason to keep you out."

In his second stint as a MAC coach, understands the predicament for schools like Miami.

If you don't win a large number of games or earn the league's automatic bid, you must bring something else — like a potential first-round draft pick. Coles had that in Dan Majerle at Central Michigan and in Wally Szczerbiak at Miami. Szczerbiak's last season at Miami, 1999, was also the last time the MAC had an at-large team make the NCAA field.

"I think it takes a little star power, and a little location power," Coles said. "People want to talk about Northern Iowa getting in, but what about the other boys? Some teams play 10 or 11 home games and go 7-9 or 8-8 in the conference. Did they over-achieve? I don't think so."

## SPORTS



**Redskins hot on heels of Brown**  
after former No. 1 overall pick  
cut by Cleveland, Page 33

# Lined up for the slaughter

## Tournament limelight is short, bittersweet for sacrificial seeds

BY NANCY ARMOUR

The Associated Press

**F**airleigh Dickinson coach Tom Green was going over potential NCAA tournament matchups, daydreaming about his Knights playing Wake Forest. Or Washington. Maybe even North Carolina.

Daydreaming? Sounds more like a nightmare.

And 16th-seeded FDU wound up even worse than Green imagined, facing the biggest seed of them all, overall No. 1 Illinois on Thursday.

"Realistically, we know what a long shot it is," Green said Monday. "It's a huge challenge, to say the least."

That's life for the NCAA tournament's little guys. Getting a bid gives small schools like Fairleigh Dickinson, Richmond and Coppin State publicity and national exposure they'd never get otherwise.

But teams seeded 15th and 16th don't get much of a chance to enjoy the limelight, usually gone by the end of the first round in a blowout to one of college basketball's powerhouses.

"I told our players earlier in the week... we're going to have to upset somebody," said Travis Ford, whose 15th-seeded Eastern Kentucky squad goes up against No. 2 seed Kentucky on Thursday. "We're going to be an underdog. I can guarantee you that."

No 16th seed has ever beaten a No. 1 since the tournament expanded to 64 teams in 1985, and only four No. 15s have upended a second seed. Richmond beat Syracuse 73-69 in 1991, Santa Clara upset Arizona 64-61 in 1993, Coppin State stunned South Carolina 78-65 in 1997, and Hampton surprised Iowa State in 2001.

But those few upsets are enough to give every small school hope, no matter how faint.

"It's happened four times for a reason. Because it's possible," said Michael Haney, a forward for Eastern Kentucky.

Haney isn't delusional, just optimistic. Those 15th seeds that pulled off upsets were just like his team and the others that were hard at work Monday, preparing to play behemoths such as Illinois, Duke and Connecticut.

OK, so Santa Clara had Steve Nash when the Broncos knocked out No. 2 Arizona in 1993. But these tools have guys who can play, too. Haney ranks fifth in the country in field goal percentage, shooting a blistering 63 percent,



Delaware State players, first-time Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference champions, participate in a celebration in their honor on Monday in Dover, Del. Delaware State (19-13) is the No. 16 seed in the Austin Regional and will face Duke (25-5) in a first-round game on Friday in Charlotte, N.C.

while Obie Trotter of Alabama A&M — the ultimate sacrificial seed as one of the teams in the play-in game — leads the country in steals.

Besides, the law of averages says a No. 16 has to beat a No. 1 one of these days.

Western Carolina came close in 1996, missing two shots in the closing seconds to fall to Purdue 73-71. In 1989, two No. 1s got scares. Georgetown edged Princeton 50-49, but the Hoyas needed two blocks by Alonzo Mourning in the final six seconds. Oklahoma escaped with a 72-71 win after East Tennessee State missed a shot in the final second.

"It goes back to the saying, 'Respect everyone but fear no one,'" Ford said.

And, really, for those schools coming out of the smaller conferences, is there a difference between playing, say, top-seeded Duke and No. 4 Louisville?

"There's more and more parity," said Central Florida coach Kirk Speraw, whose team is seeded 15th for a second straight year and plays No. 2 Connecticut on Friday. "You take the first 15 teams in the country, maybe

*"It's probably the biggest long shot ever as far as a 16 seed knocking off a team with one loss."*

Tom Green

Fairleigh Dickinson coach

they're a notch above because of a couple of players. But you take programs 25 through 125, and how much difference is there really? I think that spread is getting narrower all the time."

Still, they know they're long shots. In Illinois, Green's squad gets a team that has lost one measly game all year. When Green and his assistants were making their scouting report, they looked for even the slightest weakness, and came up empty.

"It's probably the biggest long shot ever as far as a 16 seed knocking off a team with one loss," Green acknowledged. "I'm going to tell them point-blank a 16 has never beaten a 1," he added.

"I'll tell them about the history of the game a little bit. And tell them we have to play well this week."

But even if they wind up being an underdog to a trivia question only delusional fans will remember five years from now, there are worse things than being a 15th and 16th seed. They at least have one more game to play.

This is their big chance to shine, too, with more attention on them in the next three or four days than the entire rest of the season. How many people knew Richmond's nickname was the Spiders before its big upset? Or that Coppin State was in Maryland? And if one of the little guys does pull off an upset — or even makes a serious run — it's guaranteed an arena full of fans. When UCF played Pittsburgh close in its first-round game last year, the Wisconsin fans at the Bradley Center jammed on the Golden Knights' bandwagon so fast it almost tipped over. Pitt eventually won, 53-44.

"It's great exposure for programs like ours, certainly on a national level. And it has a long shelf life," Speraw said. "People remember you were in the tournament,



Inside

■ Coaches don't see humor in Kentucky-E. Kentucky matchup Page 39

■ Be aware of these trends before filling out your bracket Page 38

and that's obviously good for your school, your academic programs and your athletic programs."

And maybe, just maybe, this will be the year for a historic upset.

"You'd like to think it's going to happen someday, but it hasn't happened in 20 years," Green said. "Hopefully it'll happen in my lifetime, but we'll see."

## Selig willing to testify; players' status uncertain

Page 34

